

ORIGINAL

SOUTHCENTRAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

**September 29, 1995
Anchor River Inn
Anchor Point, Alaska**

VOLUME 3

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

	Chairman Roy Ewan	Gary Oskolkoff	
	Lee Basnar		Ben
Romig	Robert Henrichs		Ralph Lohse
	Fred John, Jr.		

MEMBERS OF FEDERAL OR STATE AGENCIES:

	Taylor Brelsford, Coordinator	Robert Willis	
	Dick Marshall		John
Morrison	Ted Spraker		Rod Kuhn
	Greg Bos		Hollis
Twitchell			

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO TESTIFIED:

	Steve Russell	Sharon
Croskey	Mary Ann Mills	William Deal

PROCEEDINGS
SEPTEMBER 29, 1995

(Tape: 310-1845)
(0490)

(On record - 8:25 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN EWAN: I'll call the meeting to order. I believe we have enough council members here because Gary and Ben are missing but we'll go ahead and start with no objections. The first order of business is Council Size/Geographic Representation/Nominations Process. I guess this is just for discussion?

MR. BRELSFORD: Actually, depending on the wishes of the council, we'd be ready for action on either of these items as well or recommendation on the part of the Southcentral Council.

CHAIRMAN EWAN: Well, do you want to talk about that?

MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I could brief you on these. You'll find the items in question under the Tab 9 with the little blue one that says 9B. There's a pink colored sheet there. And generally speaking, the question before you is whether the size of this council, seven seats, is adequate to represent the Southcentral region. Initially, several councils have requested that the Federal Subsistence Board consider additional seats. And in order to approach that systematically, the board asked that each of the councils review and consider the size, the potential need for additional seats or some restructuring within your council. So that's the question. The process is that your recommendations would go to the Federal Subsistence Board. They, in turn, would have to make a recommendation regarding the councils overall to the Secretary of Interior.

The one suggestion on the table within the Southcentral region is detailed in this memo. Rod was actually on the review panel that helped put this together and maybe we could have Rod say a word about how they came to this conclusion.

MR. KUHN: I don't have the memo in front of

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1 me, but...

2
3 MR. BRELSFORD: That's easy. You do remember
4 it, I'm sure.

5
6 MR. KUHN: Yes, I remember a discussion about
7 it. I was a member of the panel that met this year to
8 review the applicants and to forward that on to the
9 staff for recommendations to the Secretary. And the
10 one thing that the panel noted was we have, kind of, a
11 hole in the middle of the region. And I realize that
12 that is a large non-rural area, but consistent with the
13 Federal Advisory Committee Act, there is -- they really
14 are looking at a diversity of representation when they
15 make up councils. And there's nothing in our regula-
16 tions that would exclude someone from Anchorage or
17 Wasilla or Palmer or someplace in there from being a
18 member of the council.

19
20 We have felt from the beginning -- in fact, I
21 was involved in the very first round also for this
22 council when we made the initial review of all of you.
23 And what we tried to do was try to spread the repre-
24 sentation out and we knew that the Kenai was going to
25 be a critical area and we had a good pool of candidates
26 from there. And there were two from the Kenai, and we
27 had two from Prince William Sound, and two from the
28 Copper Basin area. And then we had one from the
29 Cantwell area. The first year we -- in passing we
30 mentioned to each other that we had some good
31 candidates who had applied from the center -- from the
32 non-rural area. But then we felt that the others
33 needed the representation so we made that
34 recommendation.

35
36 This year, again, when the panel met, the
37 concern was raised again that we had some good
38 candidates, but we wanted to be sure that the other
39 areas were represented as we had them. And -- but we
40 did feel that there is a missing element here. And
41 that was the Anchorage/Mat-Su area has no repre-
42 sentation, I guess, you know, the geographic area on
43 the council. So that was a recommendation that the
44 panel forwarded and has been forwarded on and that's
45 something that, I don't know, the panel would like you
46 to provide input to the board on it.

47
48 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could
49 add one comment and that has to do with the designation

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1 of seats. There is nothing formal in your charter that
 2 identifies individual seats as being designated for the
 3 Copper River Basin or for the Kenai Peninsula or Prince
 4 William Sound. That's an informal effort to cover the
 5 whole area. So, in this instance, the effect of the
 6 panel -- what they're saying is, it would be trouble-
 7 some to take away representation from Prince William
 8 Sound or Kenai or one of the areas where there's an
 9 existing representative. And instead what they're
 10 proposing is to add two more to make additional room
 11 for the Matanuska-Susitna area -- oh, pardon me,
 12 Anchorage/Matanuska-Susitna area.

13
 14 So the seats would still not be designated.
 15 There's no automatic designation of seats but it would
 16 make the panel larger and provide for more opportunity
 17 for breadth of representation.

18
 19 MR. LOHSE: Taylor, if I understand....

20
 21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes.

22
 23 MR. LOHSE: If I understand right, then if one
 24 of our seats becomes vacant, like from Prince William
 25 Sound or something like that, it could also be filled
 26 from the Matanuska-Susitna -- I mean there's nothing
 27 that says it's going to be filled from another Prince
 28 William Sound seat.

29
 30 MR. BRELSFORD: Right, nothing prevents that.
 31 That's correct.

32
 33 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is that -- thank you.

34
 35 MR. BASNAR: Mr. Chairman. Rod in -- you
 36 mentioned some excellent candidates or well qualified
 37 or whatever your term was of people from this area.
 38 Could you define that a little bit further?

39
 40 MR. KUHN: Well, you know, the various things
 41 -- the factors that people are supposed to address when
 42 they're trying to be involved in this. In the way
 43 people responded to those and in calls to their
 44 references and things like that, there were some people
 45 who had quite a bit of knowledge. There were people
 46 who had spent, you know, many years living in various
 47 regions of the state, who had lived a subsistence
 48 lifestyle, who had a great deal of knowledge of the
 49 subject matter but their residence currently is in

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1 Anchorage. And, you know, there are people who may
 2 have maybe some strong academic credentials who
 3 actually did studies about the subject matter in
 4 various areas. So I don't know what type of person it
 5 might be but we only break the candidates down into
 6 highly qualified, qualified, and not qualified. So
 7 there's only three types of brackets.

8
 9 And by and large, you get a -- people who are
 10 interested are actually usually fairly knowledgeable in
 11 what we're doing here and so you end up with a lot of
 12 highly qualified candidates that further up the line
 13 the staff and the board has to, kind of, continue to
 14 sort through. And when it goes to the Secretary,
 15 there's always like alternates and things like that to
 16 the Secretary. So when it comes to the Secretary, he's
 17 looking at that as well when he's making the selection.

18
 19 CHAIRMAN EWAN: What does the law say about
 20 that?

21
 22 MR. BRELSFORD: I think the simple statement
 23 in the govern- -- the Federal Advisory Committee Act
 24 says, that panels or councils have to be formed with
 25 diversity of representation in relation to their
 26 subject matter. So that -- you know, this is a
 27 subsistence council. You don't have to have interests
 28 represented that have nothing to do with subsistence.
 29 But among the range of geographic differences or other
 30 significant differences on the subsistence topic, the
 31 panel -- the council should have some diversity of
 32 representation. That's -- it's really a very general
 33 guideline. And as a rule, what's been done in the 10
 34 regional councils today, is a fairly careful effort to
 35 ensure that each council has representation from across
 36 its geographic region. That's been the real principal
 37 focus in diversity in the council make-up.

38
 39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Robert.

40
 41 MR. LOHSE: I think Bruce had a question
 42 first.

43
 44 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I'm just curious. You
 45 say the Secretary of Interior makes these choices and
 46 stuff but I don't actually believe he reads all this
 47 stuff and picks each individual person who actually
 48 does it.

49

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1 (Gary Oskolkoff joins council meeting.)

2
3 MR. BRELSFORD: I think, in a simple overview,
4 the next page actually describes -- there's a flow
5 chart in, you know, fairly brief number of steps -- the
6 boxes here, Robert. So generally what happens is these
7 regional panels evaluate candidates and provide some
8 ranking and some rationale. Those panels in each area
9 are made up of federal resource management agency
10 representatives. So they offer some -- they go through
11 the applications in some detail, actually even talk to
12 people for references. They write up a set of
13 recommendations -- a set of rankings. That goes to the
14 Federal Subsistence Board and the board evaluates those
15 at some depth. The board has in fact -- in other -- in
16 some years, made changes. They've reversed recommend-
17 ations from the staff level and exercised their own
18 judgment fairly forcefully. It's the board's package
19 that goes to the Secretary.

20
21 So I would say, in answer to your question,
22 the significant decision-making is probably at the
23 Federal Subsistence Board level. That goes to the
24 Secretary. It actually is reviewed. It takes weeks.
25 They have a whole series of people working on
26 appointments that go through these things. So, you
27 know, it's not turned around in a couple of days at the
28 Secretary's level; it takes weeks. But I think the
29 most knowledgeable judgment about it is probably
30 exercised at the Federal Subsistence Board level.

31
32 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, I was just going to ask
33 Taylor, what is currently the average size of a council
34 across the state?

35
36 MR. BRELSFORD: I think seven is the average.
37 They are as large as nine, I know.

38
39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: 13.

40
41 MR. KUHN: Southeast is 13. I'd say nine
42 would be more of an average.

43
44 MR. BRELSFORD: Excuse me. Is it?

45
46 MR. KUHN: I would say.

47
48 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, there's a list of
49 council members somewhere.

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1
2 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, there's 88 in 10 --
3 there's 88 members in 10 councils.
4
5 MR. KUHN: Yeah, 88 divided by 10 is pretty
6 close to 9.
7
8 MR. BRELSFORD: So it's nine.
9
10 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right, let's have one
11 person speaking at a time, okay, so we can all hear.
12 Lee.
13
14 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I -- I guess
15 I feel that the people in that area need to have some
16 representation. I'm sure they could -- we've got a
17 challenge here on our council that I don't think any
18 other council in the state has. And that's this broad
19 diversity that we have. We've got the largest urban
20 area in the state, meaning Anchorage. We've got remote
21 areas here on the Kenai and also some in the Interior.
22 We've got a broad ethnic diversity whereas some of the
23 councils are just -- predominately all of the villages
24 are Native, so they deal in their issues in a different
25 way. We have to look at all kinds of different issues
26 and heck, I wouldn't see any problem, I guess, with a
27 representative or two from a different area that could
28 bring some -- some meaningful insight and help us out
29 and want to wrestle with some of these problems.
30
31 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I don't know what you want
32 from us.
33
34 MR. BRELSFORD: I think basically, a yea or
35 nay comment. Does the council, as a whole, support
36 this suggestion or not? I think that would help the
37 board know what to do in response to this.
38
39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, what are we talking
40 about? Two additional seats?
41
42 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, the memorandum suggests
43 two additional seats. The purpose would be to provide
44 more room for more representation. Again, there's
45 still no formal designation of seats. They're not
46 going to be named the Anchorage/Mat-Su seat. But the
47 idea is that with nine seats, you could widen the
48 representation on this council a bit.
49

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any comments? Lee.

2
3 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I think
4 that's good. This informal thing causes me a little
5 bit of concern, depending upon the composition of the
6 decision-makers. We could end up with, for example,
7 four representatives from the Kenai Peninsula or four
8 representatives from Cantwell, you know, and we
9 certainly don't want that. But if this -- you know, I
10 guess we just have to trust in the integrity of the --
11 of whoever the future members of the selecting process
12 are. So, I guess the way to do it is to make a motion.
13 I'll move that we -- what is it support? Is this a
14 proposal? Is that how you want -- how do you want the
15 motion to go?

16
17 MR. BRELSFORD: I think to support the
18 recommendation of the regional panel.

19
20 (Ben Romig joins council meeting.)

21
22 MR. BASNAR: Okay, I move to support the
23 recommendation of the regional panel to increase the
24 numbers of the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council
25 from seven to nine.

26
27 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is there a second?

28
29 MR. LOHSE: I'll move to second for purposes
30 of discussion.

31
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: There's a second. Further
33 discussion on the motion?

34
35 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

36
37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes.

38
39 MR. OSKOLKOFF: I happen to disagree very
40 strongly with the notion that we need to expand the
41 council. I have to disagree with the logic behind it.
42 I can understand people's desire to, perhaps, change
43 the composition. Essentially that's what you would be
44 doing with this. I mean, by designating those seats or
45 any way attaching a connotation as to who or where they
46 could be from or what-have-you, you're going to run
47 into some kind of trouble. Now the Secretary has seen
48 fit to appoint us for the reason that he has and that
49 is for our knowledge of subsistence in particular

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1 areas. I'm curious as to what the other representa-
 2 tives could bring to the table but more than that, I'm
 3 concerned that this could be an ongoing process. One
 4 in which we add two now, maybe add a couple more later,
 5 depending on which area -- which small facet perhaps,
 6 even of one singular community feels that they're not
 7 being represented. I can see the Kenai Peninsula
 8 easily saying that Ben and I can't possibly represent
 9 their interests with regard to the National Wildlife
 10 Refuge. Perhaps our viewpoints are too diverse.
 11 They'd say, "Geez, we'd sure like somebody from the
 12 town of Kenai. That's where most of the population is.
 13 Let's have someone sit on the board also." And
 14 essentially what you're trying to do is instead of
 15 reshuffling the deck by asking for perhaps different
 16 appointments from the Secretary, you're trying to add a
 17 few more cards.

18
 19 And I just don't believe that's an appropriate
 20 process to -- every time there's some disheartened
 21 group that feels that they're disenfranchised -- to add
 22 more people to this board. I can see we could run up
 23 the number pretty quick that way. What I would suggest
 24 instead is that the staff and even ourselves spend some
 25 time in letting people know how they can go about
 26 making their application or nominating someone so that
 27 the Secretary can appoint them instead, because I just
 28 don't see an end to this. I don't understand what the
 29 end would be if this were to take place. I don't
 30 believe this is a magic number that we have achieved,
 31 but then again, if it would have been nine or ten or 15
 32 originally, I would have said, well, that's what it is.
 33 Why are we adding? The questions becomes, "Why are
 34 you adding?" And I think when you're adding to help
 35 the process, that's perfectly fine, I guess, but I
 36 don't know that that would really help the process.

37
 38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I would like to say that I
 39 don't oppose increasing the numbers. I do oppose the
 40 idea of getting people from Anchorage who generally
 41 oppose rural subsistence preference and all that. Mat-
 42 Su area -- I believe those people have shown through
 43 the years they oppose subsistence. It just, kind of,
 44 bothers me that you're going to include those people in
 45 on this panel. I believe it's not good for the rural
 46 people, like the area I represent. Any other comment?

47
 48 MR. BASNAR: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think to
 49 ignore the largest Native population in the state,

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1 which is Anchorage, we're ignoring the Eklutna Natives.
 2 They have no opportunity to get on this board. I
 3 mean, I hope you're not looking at it that some sport
 4 hunter's going to get on this council because I really
 5 don't think that's going to happen. I would hope not.
 6 But, you know, the opportunity would be afforded for
 7 some groups that now have no representation. And in
 8 this country, we just are not in the habit of ignoring
 9 the largest population group in the state by drawing a
 10 circle around it and ignoring them. To allow them to
 11 come in and provide input that would be only, as I
 12 understand it, one from Anchorage and one from the Mat-
 13 Su Valley. And probably, as Rod said, people who have
 14 lived in various parts of the state and got a lot of
 15 knowledge. I don't want somebody from Anchorage coming
 16 in here and shooting down subsistence and creating a
 17 lot of diversity -- division, but nevertheless, I think
 18 these people have the right to be represented. Lots of
 19 people who live in the Mat-Su Valley that -- lifelong
 20 residents going back years and years and years, many
 21 Native people, they're not represented now. They don't
 22 have a chance. So based on that, I think I would vote
 23 in favor of the motion.

24
 25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Bob.

26
 27 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, well, one thing I will
 28 say is that I believe we've held many of our meetings
 29 in Anchorage. They could all come and testify. You
 30 know, maybe they might not be represented but they
 31 certainly have an opportunity to speak. Now, this
 32 interagency committee that goes through the applicants
 33 and make their recommendations to the federal board --
 34 somebody's comfortable with this council the way it is
 35 because we're all on here. So, did you guys recommend
 36 somebody from Anchorage and Mat-Su Valley and have it
 37 shot down at the Federal Board? Is that what I'm
 38 hearing?

39
 40 MR. KUHN: No. I was on the very first year
 41 and this last year. So I'd have to say that from the
 42 very first -- and especially the very first year -- we
 43 tried to see how we could spread things out to repre-
 44 sent all the areas geographically. And with the
 45 applicants we had and the area we had to represent, is
 46 how we ended up with the geographic distribution that
 47 we have today. We looked at that issues that you guys
 48 were going to have to deal with and the Kenai, Copper
 49 River were two things we knew we were going to have a

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1 lot coming up in the future on the plate. And so those
 2 are things that we considered when we put together a
 3 panel recommendation. But the first year, there was an
 4 acknowledgment among the panel that seven seemed to be
 5 too few to represent this large area and the number and
 6 the diversity of issues that face this advisory
 7 council. That's the same reason there are 13 on the
 8 Southeast, because of the diversity of geographic and
 9 issue-wise in Southeast. So it's not something that
 10 came up this year. It's something that was recognized
 11 the first year and recognized this year. I don't know
 12 in between what there was but that was what it was. It
 13 was looking at the area and it just -- to all the
 14 panelists, there seemed to be a void in the middle.

15
 16 MR. BRELSFORD: Ron, if I'm not mistaken, an
 17 Anchorage resident was recommended as an alternate the
 18 first year?

19
 20 MR. KUHN: An alternate -- an Anchorage
 21 resident was an alternate the first year.

22
 23 MR. BRELSFORD: Okay.

24
 25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

26
 27 MR. BASNAR: A question, in the Southeast you
 28 mentioned there were 13 seats?

29
 30 MR. KUHN: Uh-huh (affirmative).

31
 32 MR. BASNAR: Now, is there any representation
 33 from Juneau or...

34
 35 MR. KUHN: The Chairman's non-rural.

36
 37 MR. BRELSFORD: Does that mean yes?

38
 39 MR. KUHN: He's not from Juneau but he is non-
 40 rural. He's from Ketchikan.

41
 42 MR. BASNAR: Okay, well that answers the
 43 question.

44
 45 MR. KUHN: Yeah, Bill Thomas, the Chairman of
 46 the Southeast is non-rural.

47
 48 MR. BASNAR: Now what about out in say the
 49 western and southwestern parts of Alaska? How many

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1 seats are on those councils?
2
3 CHAIRMAN EWAN: They're listed in here.
4
5 MR. KUHN: Yeah, I don't have all that staff
6 work.
7
8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The largest one was 13, I
9 think.
10
11 MR. BASNAR: I'm sorry, I didn't look at it.
12 Excuse me.
13
14 MR. BRELSFORD: Actually, that's true. I
15 couple of items back there's a listing of the
16 composition of the councils. Dick had pulled out the
17 Advisory Council operations manual that has a tally.
18 But I think what it shows is that about half the
19 councils actually have seven members. Some have nine
20 and Southeast has 13.
21
22 MR. BASNAR: Well, if we have only seven,...
23
24 MR. BRELSFORD: You're below average.
25
26 MR. BASNAR: ...and our geographical area is
27 average, would you say?
28
29 MR. BRELSFORD: I'd say the complexity of
30 resource issues in Southcentral Alaska is, at least,
31 average.
32
33 MR. BASNAR: I don't see any problem with
34 adding a couple of members to it.
35
36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any further discussion on the
37 motion? Ralph.
38
39 MR. LOHSE: I'd like to -- I'd like to get a
40 clarification between what Gary said and Taylor said,
41 I'm kind of mixed up. These are not designated
42 Anchorage or Mat-Su seats?
43
44 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct.
45
46 MR. LOHSE: These seats are still up to the
47 Secretary to pick any place that he wants to pick them.
48 There are no designated seats for the council.
49

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1 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct.
2
3 MR. LOHSE: So the Secretary could decide he
4 needs another one from the Copper Basin or he needs
5 another one from the Kenai or he needs another some
6 place else, if he decides the need. And we are one of
7 -- if I understand it -- we are one of the largest
8 areas and one of the most complex areas in the state
9 compared to -- the only one that I can think of that
10 would be larger or more complex would be Southeastern
11 as far as diversity and everything. We're the only one
12 with all the road access, aren't we?
13
14 MR. BRELSFORD: I think Eastern Interior is
15 going to have a fair bit of the highway system.
16
17 MR. LOHSE: It's got a fair bit of the highway
18 system, too.
19
20 MR. BRELSFORD: They're also...
21
22 MR. LOHSE: I could -- I could probably go for
23 two more seats.
24
25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Fred.
26
27 MR. JOHN: I'm, kind of, a little bit nervous
28 about this because of what it's pointing toward. And
29 what I see -- how a lot of the federal board votes and
30 everything. I'm kind of a little bit afraid of when
31 they start pointing out to the urban areas right off
32 the bat and pick them up. I think subsistence is for
33 subsistence people. And this, kind of, a little bit
34 scares me. I don't like this -- anybody from -- mostly
35 what they call anti-subsistence area.
36
37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Gary.
38
39 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I think if you
40 take a real close look at your draft memorandum, you'd
41 see how futile this effort would actually be. If you
42 look at the last sentence of the first paragraph in
43 here, you'll see the reasoning behind this. "Every
44 year a number of residents from this area apply for a
45 seat on the regional council and every year highly
46 qualified applicants are rejected in favor of other
47 areas in the region." That's a good enough reason? If
48 that's a good enough reason, then what I said before,
49 if very simple then. If that's a good enough reason,

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1 how about the Kenaitze? The largest population on the
 2 Kenai Peninsula of Native Americans. And they ask for
 3 their representation. Or just the general populous
 4 from Kenai? Or the people from the Homer rural area?
 5 At what point do we stop?

6
 7 The chance is, is that if there is a real
 8 discrepancy here, that all one has to do is take it up
 9 to the Secretary and say, "Mr. Secretary, we have a
 10 real problem here. The board recognizes a problem
 11 here. What we would like you to do next year, this
 12 year, is not appoint this person and appoint someone
 13 else. We really feel that this would be more fair."
 14 It's an appointment of the Secretary of Interior. It's
 15 at his wish that we're here. He felt that we could
 16 best represent these views. And that would be how one
 17 goes about this. Not an interagency panel suggesting
 18 that "Well, we'll add one here." What it does is that
 19 -- it would seem to me that when the next year rolls
 20 around, couldn't we add two more? Couldn't we use the
 21 same logic, the same sentence and just add a couple of
 22 more people. And add them and add them and add them
 23 until one side gets a little higher or this side gets a
 24 little higher. Those people are taken care of. Pretty
 25 soon you got somebody that represents -- pretty soon
 26 somebody will say, "Well, we do have to have a sport
 27 hunter on there. We do have to have someone from the
 28 Bow Hunters Association. We do have to have someone
 29 from the Alaska Outdoor Coalition representing those
 30 opposing views, otherwise we're not going to have a
 31 good base for discussion." And we could go on and on.
 32 I just don't see the reasoning behind it. It's not
 33 laid out in this memorandum in any way shape or form
 34 that I can agree with and I'd ask that we vote this
 35 down.

36
 37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other discussion? Ben.

38
 39 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, I guess I'd have to agree
 40 with Lee a little bit and also with Gary. I don't
 41 think that there's necessarily anything wrong with
 42 adding to the amount of people on the council but to
 43 write a memorandum and say, you know, specifically the
 44 Anchorage/Mat-Su area, I think the way that's worded, I
 45 don't think I could support this as it's written. I
 46 could support it if it said that we need to add two and
 47 be more diversified but to isolate out that area, I'm
 48 not sure if I'm real comfortable with that.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

2
3 MR. BASNAR: I think Ben's got a good point
4 there. If we're talking that these seats have no
5 geographical designation, then Ben's got an excellent
6 point and I would certainly go along with an amendment
7 that would delete that or withdraw the motion and
8 restate or whatever it would take, but that's an
9 excellent point.

10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Go ahead.

12
13 MR. HENRICHS: This brings me back. I was on
14 the original founding Board of Directors of Prince
15 William Sound Aquaculture Corporation. And we wrote
16 the articles of incorporation and the bylaws and we had
17 people on there that wanted to include everybody and we
18 ended up with a board of directors that had 45 people
19 and it was very unwieldy.

20
21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Go ahead, Lee.

22
23 MR. BASNAR: Again, Mr. Chairman, since we are
24 below average in numbers of representatives on our
25 council -- below the average throughout the state, and
26 since we've got such a wide, diverse bunch of problems
27 to deal with, I don't see us expanding into all these
28 areas that Gary was concerned about. I think that's
29 probably not a very valid or deep concern. It's a
30 concern, yes, but -- I just don't have any trouble
31 getting knowledgeable people on this council to help me
32 out when I have to make a decision. And if two more
33 will do it, wherever they're from, as long as they're
34 not designated, I say good. If we're deleting
35 qualified people just because we're nailed down to only
36 seven people, if two more would help us, I need all the
37 help I can get.

38
39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Any other
40 discussions?

41
42 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Call for the question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The question's been called
45 for. All in favor of the motion say aye.

46
47 (No favoring votes)

48
49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All opposed by the same sign?

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1
2 ALL IN UNISON: Aye.
3
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The motion does not carry.
5
6 MR. BRELSFORD: Fails. Okay.
7
8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes.
9
10 MR. BASNAR: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to beat
11 the horse to death but I'm going to restate a motion
12 that deletes this objection as to why I didn't vote for
13 motion. I mean I voted against my own motion and that
14 is because of this designation in the memorandum here
15 of this Matanuska/Susitna/Anchorage representation.
16 Based on that, I move that this council recommend the
17 addition of two seats to be approved by the Federal
18 Subsistence Board.
19
20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is there a second? Did you
21 second it, Ralph?
22
23 MR. LOHSE: No, but I will, so we can discuss
24 it.
25
26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. I'm not a parlia-
27 mentarian but I think we're -- it's a proper motion,
28 right?
29
30 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, it is. Of course.
31
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: We're not doing the same thing
33 again?
34
35 MR. BRELSFORD: No, I think it's significantly
36 different.
37
38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Any discussion on
39 the motion?
40
41 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if
42 we're beating a dead horse necessarily. I think that
43 perhaps we're, as an advisory council, running this a
44 little fast. Perhaps individual members have had some
45 time to think about this but I came into this cold this
46 morning. I don't understand the -- without that type
47 of logic that was placed in the memo, the logic of just
48 adding more people, hoping to get more information -- I
49 think more likely you're just going to get more views.

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1 I really would like to see this tabled until the next
2 meeting and gather some information on exactly what the
3 effect would be, and what the reasoning for doing it
4 would be, and how those appointments would then be
5 made. We have a pretty good geographic diversity at
6 this point. Where are the other pinpoints of need, I
7 guess, going to come from? I think it's a serious
8 issue, one that deserves serious discussion and
9 probably should be given some reasonable amount of
10 time.

11
12 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right, since there's no
13 motion, I was going to ask a question. Is there a
14 reason why we need to act on it today?

15
16 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think it has to do
17 with the 10 regional councils acting in concert so the
18 board can address this across the entire state. There
19 are formal recommendations from several regions having
20 to do with size and membership. I think the Kodiak
21 Aleutians Region is one that comes to mind. They have
22 a request on the table. The board wanted to look at
23 all of this together to, kind of, take the view that
24 "We've launched the regional council program; we're two
25 years in. Now it's reasonable to adjust and see if the
26 size and structure of the council program has worked."
27 So I think the board would like to act in regard to
28 all 10 regions at once, not just deal one at a time.
29 And from that standpoint, there's a bit of an urgency
30 to move forward now. But the reasons that are stated,
31 I mean, the council makes its own judgment about
32 whether you're ready to address that question.

33
34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Fred.

35
36 MR. JOHN: I don't know, myself, I don't see
37 any reason for increasing it. I think there's enough
38 diversity here, enough people here that, you know,
39 there's seven of us from across the whole region, from
40 every different area.

41
42 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

43
44 MR. BASNAR: Mr. Chairman, I see two people
45 sitting on this council from Cordova. I don't cast any
46 arrows at either one of these people but that's not
47 broad diversity. That's two people from Cordova. It
48 could have been one of them from Mat-Su Valley, right?

49

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1 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, there's two of us. I do
 2 live in Cordova and I feel that I represent -- also
 3 represent all the tribes in our area also. And if you
 4 got a problem with that, that's too bad.

5
 6 MR. BASNAR: Well, as I said, Mr. Chairman, I
 7 wasn't slinging arrows at any individual. I don't
 8 represent a tribe, nor do I represent the white people
 9 of Alaska. I represent the people in my region.

10
 11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph.

12
 13 MR. LOHSE: The only thing I do know is that
 14 in some of the letters that I received, that was one of
 15 the subjects that was brought up is that there was the
 16 two of us from Cordova. It does -- you know, we
 17 recognize that we are different and we look at things
 18 differently and everything else. But at that same
 19 time, from appearances, it looks like, you know, it
 20 looks like an unbalanced board from that standpoint --
 21 from that fact that there are two of us there. Myself,
 22 one of the things in all of the discussions that we had
 23 is we've relied on each other's knowledge.

24
 25 And for myself, I don't just consider myself
 26 -- I mean, it's hard for me to explain that to other
 27 people, I'm not just from Cordova. I've spent most of
 28 my time in Unit 11. I actually consider myself -- I
 29 have a home in Unit 11; I have a home in Cordova. I
 30 used to spend half and half. Now, because I've got
 31 kids in high school, I spend most of my time in
 32 Cordova. We intend to go back to Unit 11. So I don't
 33 just look at myself as a Cordovan. But on paper, when
 34 other people look at it, that's what it looks like.
 35 And we have relied on the fact that I know something
 36 about Unit 11. We've relied on that fact that I know
 37 something about Cordova. We've relied on the fact that
 38 Lee knows something about Cantwell and you know
 39 something about Kenai and you're up at the north end of
 40 it and, you know, and you're right in the center. And
 41 we've relied on that kind of diversity.

42
 43 And, I guess, to me, I just got a real eye
 44 opener driving to Kenai. I have a total different
 45 impression after driving down here on the Kenai about
 46 the Kenai than I did previously, you know, in my way of
 47 looking at it. I had never been here. I didn't -- I
 48 hadn't seen it the way it is. And I like the fact that
 49 I can talk to people who have been there, been with the

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1 people, seen it, know something about it. I mean, I
 2 rely a real lot on what Gary says about the Kenai
 3 because I don't have the understanding about it. I
 4 rely on Fred for your area because -- I've been there,
 5 at least, I know what it looks like and I've been up in
 6 that area. But I'm not afraid of having two more
 7 people and I don't, you know, I don't know where
 8 they're from or who they're from. I would like to have
 9 more people that would be able to share information
 10 with me. And that's -- that's my personal opinion on
 11 it and I will probably vote for an increase and I --
 12 simply because that -- and if I understand right,
 13 Kodiak is asking for more representation in Kodiak,
 14 isn't it?

15
 16 MR. BRELSFORD: The Kodiak Aleutians region.
 17 I think the requests are focused on the Aleutians.

18
 19 MR. LOHSE: The Kodiak Aleutians. And I've
 20 been there. That's where I first came to Alaska.
 21 That's where I first spent my time, is out on the
 22 Aleutians or out on the Aleutian Peninsula. And I can
 23 understand their need for more representation. It's a
 24 big area. I sit here and I look at our -- I sat here
 25 and -- I sat down and I looked at the list of boards
 26 and if Kodiak gets more representation, you know, we're
 27 going to be one of the smaller boards. We're going to
 28 be at the bottom end of the boards instead of at the
 29 top end of the boards for size. I would have no
 30 objection to two more seats myself.

31
 32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other discussion? Yeah.

33
 34 MR. ROMIG: Roy, I guess, you know, like I
 35 said before, I think that two more people wouldn't hurt
 36 the council but, you know, it is something that, you
 37 know, I just walked into this morning and I'm not that
 38 there's not any other avenues for people to look at
 39 other than increasing the size of the council either.
 40 So I'd like to be able to look at those different
 41 things. And what I'm in reference to, I guess, is, I
 42 know we're on the council and, you know, we go to the
 43 board and I know -- I think there is like a committee
 44 also that could actually be formed. And, you know, if
 45 we're worried about it, you know, just expanding out, I
 46 think maybe we should look at that committee process
 47 too that would -- I'm not sure on this, I'd have to ask
 48 the staff but, you know, I don't think that, you know,
 49 I'd feel comfortable right now, today, voting for this.

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1 I think that given time, you know, it would be the
 2 right thing to do if there wasn't any other avenues
 3 for, you know, people to get their message to us. But
 4 -- am I right about the -- is there actually a
 5 committee that could be formed that could give us
 6 input?

7
 8 MR. BRELSFORD: Local advisory committee is,
 9 kind of, your idea?

10
 11 MR. ROMIG: Well, I don't know exactly what
 12 they're called in the federal level.

13
 14 MR. BRELSFORD: Actually, Dick -- I believe
 15 this has to do with the relation of the regional
 16 councils to the local advisory committees. And maybe
 17 you could address that or Rod?

18
 19 MR. MARSHALL: Go ahead. Give it a shot.

20
 21 MR. KUHN: There's a number of avenues. The
 22 Federal Subsistence Board or the Secretaries could
 23 possibly, if the State were willing to enter into a
 24 memorandum of some sort to gain knowledge for specific
 25 purposes. In this case, like using local advisory
 26 committees on the Kenai Peninsula to help with Kenai
 27 Peninsula issues or something like that. Also our
 28 regulations provide for the establishment, when it's
 29 needed, of committees to deal with problems, such as
 30 setting up loc- -- you could set up a local federal
 31 advisory committee for the Kenai Peninsula to handle
 32 Kenai Peninsula specific -- maybe a limited time
 33 duration problem. Realize that you're talking dollars
 34 and you're talking very shrinking budgets. So there's
 35 that -- you're very much swimming up stream to try to
 36 add to the budgets in -- say if you wanted to set up a
 37 multi-member Kenai Peninsula advisory committee, or
 38 something like that, underneath of you folks.

39
 40 MR. MARSHALL: I'd like to add that it is
 41 working informally fairly well. Lynn Whitmore, that
 42 testified here Wednesday -- Wednesday night, was the
 43 chair of the local advisory committee. So while
 44 there's no official connection, no federal funding,
 45 there is a coordination between the two. Back when --
 46 before we took over, the state regional advisory
 47 committees were, in almost all instances, the chairs of
 48 the local advisory committee. That's how that system
 49 worked. When we looked at the system, we felt it was

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1 necessary for us to establish our own regional advisory
 2 councils but did not feel it was either necessary nor
 3 reasonable, funding-wise, to establish local advisory
 4 committees. So we're depending on an informal
 5 relationship. But it seems to be working throughout
 6 the state.

7
 8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Fred.

9
 10 MR. JOHN: Myself, I feel just uncomfortable
 11 to vote for on this right now. On what the avenue...

12
 13 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, any further discussion
 14 on the motion?

15
 16 MR. MARSHALL: Excuse me, I didn't get who
 17 seconded?

18
 19 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph, I believe.

20
 21 MR. BRELSFORD: Ralph did for discussion.

22
 23 MR. MARSHALL: Thank you.

24
 25 MR. HENRICHS: Didn't you make a motion to
 26 table it?

27
 28 MR. OSKOLKOFF: No. No. I just suggested it.
 29 I wanted to hear discussion on it. But...

30
 31 CHAIRMAN EWAN: That would be in order if you
 32 wanted to make that motion?

33
 34 MR. OSKOLKOFF: No. No, I'm inclined to let
 35 the motion be voted but I just wanted to say one other
 36 thing that -- that I think that's important and I don't
 37 think this memorandum quite addresses it. But I think
 38 it's important to remember and I think we almost hit
 39 upon it across the table from me when we were discuss-
 40 ing why we're here and how we got here is that, we
 41 didn't get here necessarily from where we're from. I
 42 don't think the Secretary just pointed his finger at
 43 that the map and said, "Geez, I'll take two from
 44 Cordova and one from Ninilchik" -- wherever his finger
 45 hit. We are here for what our knowledge is, what our
 46 background is. And that's, I believe, how the
 47 Secretary would go about balancing the board if he were
 48 to add more people. There would be background
 49 information on the individuals involved, what they've

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1 done, what their use of the resource is, how they use
2 it, and how they interact and whether that really is --
3 that could deliver more to the council -- more
4 information to the council. So I think that's the kind
5 of diversity we're really talking about. But I still
6 agree that this is -- or still think that this is
7 something that -- that perhaps we need to discuss a
8 little further down the road, and for that reason, I'll
9 vote against the motion.

10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Any further
12 discussion on the motion? Are you ready to vote?
13

14 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Call for the question.

15
16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The question is called for.
17 All in favor of the motion, say aye.
18

19 MR. BASNAR: Aye.
20

21 MR. LOHSE: Aye
22

23 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Opposed by the same sign?
24

25 MR. JOHN: Aye.
26

27 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Aye.
28

29 MR. HEINRICHS: Aye.
30

31 MR. ROMIG: Aye.
32

33 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I believe this motion does not
34 pass. I believe the nos against it...
35

36 MR. BRELSFORD: It was one to four with one
37 abstention to the board?
38

39 MR. LOHSE: Two to four.
40

41 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Two to four.
42

43 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Oh, we weren't counting. I'm
44 making a judgment. Chair judgment. The motion doesn't
45 carry. I think I heard more ayes on the opposed.
46

47 MR. BRELSFORD: Correct.
48

49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Unless you want a count?

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1 Anybody want a count?
2
3 MR. LOHSE: We don't need a count. It failed.
4
5 MR. MARSHALL: I've been recording it. It's
6 on the sheet. But I don't think it's absolutely
7 necessary for...
8
9 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. We'll go on to the
10 next item then.
11
12 MR. BRELSFORD: The next item, Mr. Chairman,
13 if you wish, takes up the question of how the regional
14 councils -- the standing regional councils could be
15 involved in the appointment process for new members
16 when seats expire. Roughly one-third of the seats on
17 your regional council and each of the others expire
18 each year. And reappointments calling for candidates,
19 soliciting new candidates, and then evaluating those
20 candidates and making recommendations to the Secretary,
21 that process takes place every year. To date, as we
22 talked just a moment ago, there's been this interagency
23 panel, regional panel from the land management agencies
24 that have gone through the applications, made phone
25 calls, and so on. That agency panel has given
26 suggestions -- or recommendations really -- to the
27 board -- to the Federal Subsistence Board. The board
28 has gone through those -- really dug in at some length
29 in many cases -- and then forwarded recommendations to
30 the Secretary of Interior.
31
32 In some regional councils, the suggestion has
33 been raised that the councils themselves have a more
34 active role in the appointment process. In one
35 instance a council said, we should appoint ourselves --
36 we should appoint the new members. The standing
37 members of the council should make the appointments.
38 That's prevented by law. These are Secretarial
39 appointments. It's clearly outside the jurisdiction of
40 an existing council to appoint its own replacement
41 members. However, the federal -- I guess actually this
42 was the interagency staff committee -- we've been asked
43 to go back to each of the 10 regional councils and
44 discuss the way this council might want to be involved.
45 I think basically the best possibility would be to
46 have some way of reviewing applications and offering
47 sug-gestions to the Federal Subsistence Board. And so
48 the question on the table is whether the council wants
49 to get involved in that.

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1
2 There's one other item I have to mention,
3 there's some Privacy Act considerations. So when a
4 candidate submits an application, there's some
5 information on that which cannot go outside the federal
6 government. A simple example would be social security
7 numbers. So the applications -- there might have to be
8 some information deleted if the councils were to be
9 involved in the review of candidates -- in the review
10 of nomination packages.

11
12 So with that, I think I've laid the groundwork
13 and if you could provide us your wishes on this, we'll
14 report it to the board.

15
16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, does anybody want to
17 make comment on whether we want to be involved in the
18 process or not? Ralph.

19
20 MR. LOHSE: Taylor, weren't we, to a certain
21 extent, involved in the past? I know we recommended --
22 I know the council recommended me and Fred for our
23 seats to be retained. Have we actually -- we've looked
24 at a list of the candidates in the past, haven't we?

25
26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I don't think so.

27
28 MR. LOHSE: No, we've never even looked at a
29 list of the candidates?

30
31 MR. BRELSFORD: I don't believe so.

32
33 MR. LOHSE: Okay. We got a list of who has
34 applied for them -- who had applied for them? Did we?

35
36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I think you could get it if
37 you asked for it but we never were...

38
39 MR. BRELSFORD: I don't think it's been
40 routinely circulated.

41
42 MR. LOHSE: Oh, okay. Because I was under --
43 I thought that we had a list of -- I'm thinking of a
44 different -- I'm thinking -- my fault, I'm thinking of
45 a different board. I was thinking of something else.
46 Okay.

47
48 MR. BRELSFORD: In the first instance, this
49 council and several others have passed motions

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1 endorsing the reappointment of members. At the
2 council's own initiative, you've offered that advice to
3 the board and certainly you could continue to do that.
4 The question here would be to review nominations...

5
6 MR. LOHSE: Other applicants, yeah.

7
8 MR. BRELSFORD: The other applicants that
9 might come in.

10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes, Lee.

12
13 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, we had a similar dis-
14 cussion, as I recall, at the meeting we had at the Red
15 Lion Inn. And at that meeting, if my memory serves me
16 correct, we decided that we -- we didn't really want to
17 get involved in the selection or recommendation of
18 other members. I don't remember all of the details of
19 it but -- boy, from a personal point of view, I've got
20 so much on my plate now to keep up with, with all of
21 this business, that geez, I just don't feel that I need
22 to be involved in trying to pass on qualifications of
23 people that I don't even know. There's some concern on
24 my part in, if the council were to select or have a
25 strong voice in the selection -- I realize the
26 Secretary does the appointing but -- it could
27 deteriorate into an ol' boy network. And I don't like
28 ol' boy networks. I would much rather have an
29 independent outside source appointing each one of us
30 based on each one of our individual qualifications.
31 And that would keep personalities -- it would keep all
32 of these other divisive issues totally out of it and
33 let the council focus on its business at hand, which is
34 certainly enough to keep us all busy. So I don't have
35 any desire to try to pass judgment on candidates.

36
37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Robert.

38
39 MR. HENRICHS: I agree. We start getting into
40 that, we could take up half our time with something
41 like that. You know, somebody picks the people that's
42 on this council. Somebody's doing it. And if they
43 don't like the way the council is moving, then the next
44 year that people come up, they're going to balance it.
45 You know, there's a master plan somewhere or we
46 wouldn't even be here.

47
48 MR. BASNAR: Did you agree with me, Bob?

49

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1 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I agreed with you on this
2 one.

3
4 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, to -- I hate to
5 sound a note of harmony here, but I also have to agree
6 that...

7
8 MR. BASNAR: Good God.

9
10 MR. OSKOLKOFF: ...that what we'd be doing
11 essentially is -- and I agree that if we did have a
12 strong voice in it, we would eventually end up with the
13 majority opinion becoming the only opinion and we would
14 start to lose diversity. And I think there's one other
15 factor that has to be kept in mind is that, I serve on
16 many political boards, more than I care to most of the
17 time, and I find that you have to be careful about how
18 you vote in order to keep yourself there. Most of
19 these boards, you're elected by a body of people. And
20 that tends to keep you fairly diverse and each group
21 has its -- each individual has its constituents. That
22 doesn't occur here. We're not elected by the people to
23 do this. So I think it would be somewhat difficult to
24 keep the politics out of each individual vote. And I
25 think that's -- at least, at this point in the game --
26 that that's pretty critical right now. It may not be
27 so much in the future when we've divested ourselves
28 with some of these more hot topics.

29
30 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I was just wondering, Ralph
31 before you -- about excluding our recommendations for
32 recommending a member continuing to serve also in this
33 whole process that we're talking about. I think that
34 should be included where we're not involved -- we
35 shouldn't even be recommending one way or another on
36 members presently serving. I see that, I guess, that
37 process not working too well because it would be --
38 it's very difficult to say, "Ralph, I don't want you
39 serving on this anymore" right to your face. If it was
40 done on secret ballot, it might be a little different.
41 Go ahead, Ralph.

42
43 MR. LOHSE: Thank you, Roy. What you're
44 telling me is that if you could have a secret ballot,
45 you wouldn't recommend me?

46
47 MR. OSKOLKOFF: You're in trouble.

48
49 MR. LOHSE: Actually, I think there's a couple

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1 things that have been brought up here that are really
2 good. Gary brought up something -- and that's some-
3 thing that was brought by the -- you know, a lot of the
4 people out in the audience and I didn't know how to
5 answer it at the time. They said, you know, "You ought
6 to remember who you're representing." And the thing
7 that we have to remember is, we're not representing
8 anything. We are supposed to be an advisory board to
9 share our knowledge. We're not representing -- I'm not
10 representing people from Unit 11. I'm not representing
11 people from Cordova. I'm not an elected official and
12 so I don't represent anybody. What I'm supposed to do
13 is I'm supposed to try to take the knowledge that I
14 have and use it to add balance to this advisory panel
15 -- or advisory council, whatever you want to call it.
16 And that doesn't mean that I represent somebody else.
17 And somehow or another, we have to get that across to
18 the public too.

19
20 And the idea that if we end up -- if we end up
21 recommending ourselves and we end up picking our own
22 replacements and things like that, we could become the
23 good ol' boy club. We could become something that we
24 -- like Bob said -- we'd spend most of our time trying
25 to pick out who we wanted to be on the committee next
26 and arguing over who we want to be on the committee
27 next. I, kind of, go along with Roy. It would take a
28 lot of pressure off of us individually if we didn't
29 have to have anything to do with the nomination
30 process. If we didn't have anything to do with saying
31 whether or not we want somebody back on it. And leave
32 it up to qualifications and let -- you know, let the
33 Secretary or the Subsistence Board, whatever you want
34 to call it, pick people that they think will add
35 knowledge and diversity to our council and just let it
36 go at that. And so I would say, I don't want to
37 involved in that. I personally don't want to be
38 involved in the nomination process. Period. And I'd
39 probably decline any committee that put me on it.

40
41 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I have a
42 question with regard to what Ralph just said. Does the
43 board make a recommendation to the Secretary?

44
45 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes.

46
47 MR. LOHSE: The Subsistence Board.

48
49 MR. BRELSFORD: The Federal Subsistence Board.

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1
2 MR. LOHSE: That's not these guys out here.
3 That's the head of the different departments. They
4 review it; they take it to him.
5
6 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Fred.
7
8 MR. JOHN: I'm kind of -- I'm with you, Roy.
9 I really don't care about, you know, recommending one
10 of -- like a member or -- might come a day when, like
11 you said, we probably don't want to recommend that I --
12 but I don't think -- I don't think that's -- I don't
13 like that.
14
15 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I didn't mean to point out
16 Ralph. I could have pointed out myself.
17
18 MR. JOHN: Yeah.
19
20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I know that if I was up for a
21 consideration. there would probably be difficulty
22 saying "No, we don't recommend Roy." It would just --
23 not proper, I don't think unless you do it by private
24 ballot, you know. Secret ballot, I mean. Any further
25 discussion on the motion?
26
27 MR. BASNAR: Is there a motion on the table?
28
29 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yes, there is.
30
31 MR. LOHSE: No, we don't have a motion on the
32 floor. We're just discussing this extent thing.
33
34 MR. MARSHALL: I've got no motion recorded,
35 Mr. Chair.
36
37 MR. LOHSE: No, there's no motion, Rod. Can
38 I...
39
40 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Did we vote twice
41 on that?
42
43 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, we already voted on the
44 other one.
45
46 MR. MARSHALL: That was on...
47
48 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right, I'm sorry. I'm
49 sorry.

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1
2 MR. MARSHALL: That was on the two seats.

3
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right, I'm sorry. I'm
5 still thinking about the old motion. Okay, yeah. So
6 there is no motion. Ralph.

7
8 MR. LOHSE: No, there's no motion. One other
9 comment. It would -- even on the secret ballot,
10 personally, I'd just as soon not know that my fellow
11 council members were the ones that said that they
12 didn't want me. I'd rather -- I'd rather think it was
13 the Secretary of the Interior that asked me not to come
14 back, you know. I don't even want to do it by secret
15 ballot myself.

16
17 MR. OSKOLKOFF: All right. And just to add to
18 this, I think that there's no one on this council -- at
19 least on this council, I don't know about the other
20 councils -- that probably has more negative letters,
21 probably sitting on the Secretary's desk right now,
22 asking for Gary Oskolkoff not to be reappointed to this
23 advisory council. So I'm probably cutting my own
24 throat on this -- but I just don't believe that we're
25 in a -- we're providing -- we want to get away from the
26 politics on one side but there still is an avenue kept
27 in mind for the people. They still can write those
28 letters. They can -- they still can supply a bit of
29 pressure and from what I understand that, at least on
30 some of these issues, there are some pretty vocal
31 groups. There are some pretty vocal individuals and
32 they can ask the Secretary of Interior to go one
33 direction or another. Now he's a political appointee
34 too, so he, you know, he may not be too awful concerned
35 about his reelection because he doesn't have to go
36 through one. But on the other hand, I think he
37 probably wants to see that there's diverse opinion,
38 that there isn't a one-sidedness, that there is real
39 discussion going on and that the people are, in some
40 way shape or fashion, being represented. And I think
41 he would take those letters to heart. So I think there
42 is an avenue, essentially, for the people to enter into
43 this process. And in a way, at a very extreme, perhaps
44 more than arm's length way, be able to affect the
45 process.

46
47 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

48
49 MR. BASNAR: Mr. Chairman. Taylor, do you

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1 need a motion -- an action on this? Is this discussion
2 good enough for the panel -- for the board?

3
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I think we got consensus here
5 that we don't want...

6
7 MR. BRELSFORD: I think it expresses the
8 consensus quite clearly.

9
10 CHAIRMAN EWAN: ...we don't want to be
11 involved. Okay, let's move on then. Are we down to C
12 then?

13
14 MR. BRELSFORD: That would bring us to C, the
15 lynx matter.

16
17 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Who's going to be
18 speaking on this one?

19
20 MR. BRELSFORD: I think Greg Bos is prepared
21 to brief you on this. Mr. Chairman. It's found at Tab
22 9c in your notebooks.

23
24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay.

25
26 MR. BOS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The federal
27 board will be considering a special action to modify
28 lynx trapping seasons to make them consistent with
29 changes made by the state this year in several interior
30 units. The state is shortening the season in Units 11,
31 12 and 13 by two weeks and lengthening the season in
32 several sub-units in Unit 20. For this council's
33 consideration are the changes made to Units 11 and 13.
34 The board wanted you to be informed about those
35 changes, the reasons for them and get -- solicit your
36 comments or views on the actions being taken.

37
38 For Units 11 and 13, the season would be
39 December 15 to January 15 whereas currently they begin
40 January -- excuse me, begin December 1st to January
41 15th. So there's a two-week later opening on the
42 trapping season for lynx in those two units.

43
44 As you know, lynx population abundance is
45 cyclic and they achieve high abundance and low
46 abundance in their cycle on an average of 8 to 11
47 years. And their primary prey, snowshoe hares, cycle
48 in the same way. So that the lynx population abundance
49 follows that of the snowshoe hares' generally. When

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1 snowshoe hare populations decline, lynx populations
 2 follow and as hares become scarce, lynx respond by not
 3 producing kittens. And their population levels can get
 4 very low. So the lynx taken by trappers during periods
 5 of decline or at the low points in their cycle are in
 6 addition to the natural mortality on lynx. And
 7 excessive harvest by trappers in the low period of the
 8 cycle can depress the adult portion of the lynx
 9 population in the low points which would then make the
 10 recovery of lynx, when hares come back, lower.

11
 12 The Department of Fish and Game in 1987 went
 13 to what is called a harvest tracking strategy for lynx
 14 management. And in that strategy, they reduce or close
 15 seasons on lynx when lynx populations are low and
 16 expand trapping opportunities when lynx populations are
 17 on the increase. And the overall effect of that
 18 management strategy is to increase trapping opportunity
 19 and harvest by trappers. The main measures that the
 20 state uses in tracking the lynx population cycle is the
 21 number of lynx trapped and the proportion of kittens in
 22 the harvest. The proportion of kittens reflects the
 23 productivity of lynx.

24
 25 In recent years, in Units 11 and 13, the lynx
 26 population has been in a decline. The proportion of
 27 kittens has been down. This is an annual process by
 28 the state and the federal board has recognized it as a
 29 valid harvest strategy -- harvest management strategy
 30 and has followed with actions to make the federal
 31 regulations consistent with the state when they make
 32 these changes. This happened last year and it's
 33 happening again this year.

34
 35 So the board is proposing, in this special
 36 action, to make the federal seasons in Units 11 and 13
 37 the same as the state for the coming trapping season.
 38 I have information on specific harvest numbers and
 39 trapping effort in the unit if you want that. But, you
 40 know, I'll just open it up to questions if you have
 41 something -- some concerns about the actions being
 42 considered.

43
 44 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Just a question. You say for
 45 the next year. Would it then automatically expire at
 46 the end of that year and then go to its normal season
 47 again?

48
 49 MR. BOS: The state action would, because it

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1 was instituted through an emergency order process.
 2 What the State will do is following the '95-'96
 3 trapping season -- this coming winter's trapping season
 4 -- we'll evaluate the results of that trapping season
 5 in terms of lynx harvested and percentage of kittens
 6 and make a decision for next year as to what the season
 7 should be, and will again adopt a regulation -- either
 8 expanding or restricting seasons, depending on the
 9 status of lynx in the various units. The federal
 10 regulations are managed differently in that the federal
 11 board would have to, again, consider a special action
 12 if it's not part of the normal regulatory cycle.
 13

14 Because the harvest information on lynx
 15 becomes available after the regular proposal cycle that
 16 we go through for federal regulations and the federal
 17 board meeting in April, it's necessary to come in after
 18 April in mid-summer or in fall in this case, and make
 19 the change that's necessary to make the regulations
 20 consistent with the state changes. So we'd be looking
 21 at another special action a year from now, probably by
 22 the federal board, if there are changes made by the
 23 state. Otherwise, I think the changes made by the
 24 federal board at this time would continue in effect for
 25 next year.
 26

27 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph. Ralph has a question.
 28

29 MR. LOHSE: In making these kind of changes,
 30 is any -- well, I don't like to use the word,
 31 "credence" -- but is any thought given to what current
 32 market conditions are? I know that the major fur buyer
 33 for Units 12, 13, 11, and 20 is basically not going to
 34 be in business this year. The fur market basically
 35 crashed last spring. I know he took a big bath on it.
 36 The amount of pressure is probably going to be way
 37 down, simply because there is no market to speak of.
 38 Is any of that taken into consideration when a
 39 discussion for need to lengthen or shorten a season is
 40 discussed or is it basically all biology?
 41

42 MR. BOS: No, that's a very good question. In
 43 fact, market price has been a major factor considered
 44 in years past. Because when prices are high, trappers
 45 really get out and go after species bringing high
 46 prices. And you're right, this year pelt prices are
 47 low. I think they're expected to bring about \$50 a
 48 pelt on lynx.
 49

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1 MR. LOHSE: Maybe.

2
3 MR. BOS: Maybe, yeah. With the European ban
4 on leg-hold trapping going into effect in January,
5 that's really putting a damper on the market. Buyers
6 are hesitant to commit to buying furs from trappers,
7 not knowing whether they're going to have -- what their
8 market's going to be for reselling. So I think the
9 effective price on lynx this year is probably less of
10 an influence on making changes to seasons than bags.
11 But the tracking strategy, they're holding to it as a
12 conservative measure to make sure that when the cycle
13 -- when the lynx cycle turns back up, you know, we'll
14 have...

15
16 MR. LOHSE: Breeding stock.

17
18 MR. BOS: ...a lot of lynx available and
19 liberal seasons can come back in sooner.

20
21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph.

22
23 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman, I would make a
24 motion to support this...

25
26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Is there a second?

27
28 MR. LOHSE: ...from what I know about lynx.

29
30 MR. ROMIG: I'll second the motion.

31
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: There's a motion and second.
33 Further discussion on it? Lee.

34
35 MR. BASNAR: Yes, I'm not trying to second
36 guess the biologist; I just don't know. Do you have a
37 track record on this? This seems to be some real fine
38 tuning of the resource and is there a track record at
39 the state level on -- I mean, have they done this for a
40 number of years successfully?

41
42 MR. BOS: Yes, the State adopted this strategy
43 in 1987 and has followed it since that time. Although
44 lynx cycle in this 8 to 11-year -- it's different in
45 different parts of the state in different units. In
46 some areas, you have pockets of hares that are out of
47 sync, so to speak, and so you have pockets of lynx in
48 those areas too. And so the State looks at it on a
49 unit by unit basis, and does fine tune to maximize the

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1 returns to trappers on a unit basis.

2
3 MR. LOHSE: One -- Mr. Chairman, one thing.
4 This is not a proposal to shorten lynx seasons. This a
5 proposal to shorten lynx seasons in 11, 12 and 13 and
6 lengthen them in Unit 20 to go along with what he's
7 talking about. The idea that as you have -- and this
8 is something I've observed myself -- as the population
9 grows, you get a higher and higher percentage of
10 kittens in your catch. And if you're getting -- the
11 more kittens you're getting, the faster your population
12 is growing. And it's a -- like he said, a fine tune
13 adjustment.

14
15 CHAIRMAN EWAN: So you're covering the whole
16 thing? The motion covers all the recommendations?

17
18 MR. LOHSE: Yeah. The motion is that we
19 accept this recommendation right here (indicating).

20
21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any further discussion on the
22 motion?

23
24 MR. BASNAR: Question.

25
26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Question is called for. All
27 in favor say aye.

28
29 ALL IN UNISON: Aye.

30
31 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Opposed by the same sign.

32
33 (No opposing votes)

34
35 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The motion is carried. Good.
36 Thank you. Next item. Wildlife Conservation Manage-
37 ment, Wildlife Biologist.

38
39 MR. WILLIS: Yeah, that's me. You know, this
40 item was put on the agenda back -- just in the late
41 summer and we had a chance to talk about it quite a bit
42 since that time. The idea has been around for awhile
43 to do something in the way of basic wildlife management
44 for all the council members. And we've decided since,
45 that the best way to approach this would be to put
46 together a booklet that people could take home and
47 study at their leisure, and especially those of you
48 have been on fish and game advisory committees and
49 worked with us for a couple of years. There's quite a

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1 bit of things you already know that you wouldn't
2 particularly care to have spoken. And so what I
3 thought I would do, I noticed we had an hour blocked
4 out for this, and since we are going to put together
5 this booklet and we're running somewhat behind today
6 and rather than talk for an hour on the third day of a
7 third day meeting, I thought I'd offer you the option.

8
9 If you have any particular management
10 questions that you wanted to ask, maybe we could do it
11 that way, rather than me going through -- I have, you
12 know, I have the, you know, a little program here, but
13 in the interest of time and the fact that we are going
14 to put the booklet together, if you would rather do it
15 that way, it would, you know, speed things up and maybe
16 get directed any questions you might have on wildlife
17 management or techniques, terminology, that kind of
18 thing. So, your choice, Roy.

19
20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

21
22 MR. BASNAR: I'm going to throw a tough one at
23 him to start with. From a management point of view,
24 can you enlighten us on the conflict, if there is one,
25 or how you approach the sustained yield concept when it
26 comes head to head with managing for subsistence users?
27 Is that in direct opposition, does it dovetail
28 somewhat, or is there no problem?

29
30 MR. WILLIS: I don't see a big conflict there,
31 Lee. You know, sustained yield from a wildlife manage-
32 ment standpoint, doesn't involve who the person is that
33 the yield is being developed for. I mean, we look at
34 an area, first of all, based on the habitat carrying
35 capacity. How many animals can this area support in a
36 healthy situation? And since you can't put a gallon of
37 animals in a one quart bucket, then you got a certain
38 number that you're going to be able to harvest out of
39 there. Who harvests those animals really doesn't enter
40 into it at that point. You know, you're determining,
41 first of all, if you have a harvestable surface, what
42 that is and whether or not you can maintain it. It's
43 only when you get in a situation of competing resource
44 user groups and you have to decide, okay, "Who are we
45 going to allow to harvest this?" Then you have to look
46 at how many people in each one of your groups that you
47 have.

48
49 In my mind, anyway, there's not a big problem

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1 with those two concepts because we always -- whoever we
 2 are managing for -- we always in a consumptive, you
 3 know, use situation, not a situation where you're
 4 managing for a non-consumptive use. But anytime you're
 5 managing for consumptive use, you're always going to
 6 look to see what your yield can be. There is a
 7 difference in different areas. You have different
 8 management objectives where your sustained yield in one
 9 area might be maximum meat production. In another
 10 area, it might be trophy hunting. And most states are
 11 coming to the realization that you can't have both in
 12 the same area very effectively. And so, almost all the
 13 states that have significant big game populations now
 14 are going to special use areas to try -- in order to
 15 try to have something for everybody. So that the meat
 16 hunter can hunt an area where he can find a lot
 17 animals. The trophy hunter, who may have to hunt every
 18 third or fourth year because he can't -- you can't have
 19 a big -- a lot of trophy animals in an area where
 20 you're having maximum meat production. He might have
 21 to go through a drawing or hunt every third or fourth
 22 year. And so your sustained yield can mean, you know,
 23 different things depending on what you're managing it
 24 for.

25
 26 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you. Any other
 27 questions?

28
 29 MR. JOHN: I have one about the road kill -- I
 30 guess the train kills. Does anybody keep tab of the
 31 sex of those animals?

32
 33 MR. WILLIS: That's something the state would
 34 do. Ted, could you answer that?

35
 36 MR. SPRAKER: Mr. Chairman, we keep track of
 37 not only the number of animals killed and where they're
 38 killed to the milepost on the highway each year, we
 39 also keep track of the sex and the age of the animal.
 40 An estimate...

41
 42 CHAIRMAN EWAN: How does that turn out
 43 percentage-wise about?

44
 45 MR. SPRAKER: As far as...

46
 47 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Male/female?

48
 49 MR. SPRAKER: ...males/females?

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1
2 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah.
3
4 MR. SPRAKER: I can tell you, in the last five
5 or six years it's averaged about 51 or 2 percent will
6 be calves of the year and about 40 percent will be
7 adult females and the other 8 or 9 percent will be
8 adult males. So calves make up the bulk of it each
9 year. And we do consider that in our management
10 objectives as far the sustained yield that Robert's
11 talking about.
12
13 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, thank you. Any other
14 questions?
15
16 MR. LOHSE: Well, I'm looking forward to
17 seeing the booklet.
18
19 MR. JOHN: Yeah.
20
21 MR. WILLIS: Yeah, we got some basic material
22 and it's just a matter of finding the time to put it
23 all together and rewrite it and we felt like that would
24 be a lot more effective than watching your eyelids
25 close while I stand up here and talk for an hour on the
26 third day of a three-day meeting. So, I guess I'll
27 close with that if there aren't any more questions.
28
29 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Bob. That hour
30 went by fast.
31
32 MR. BASNAR: Take a break.
33
34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, we'll take a five-minute
35 break.
36
37 (Off record - 9:50 a.m.)
38 (On record - 10:04 a.m.)
39
40 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I'll call the meeting back to
41 order. If there's not objection to having two people
42 that want to testify, testify at this time. We'll
43 proceed with Steve Russell. Steve?
44
45 MR. RUSSELL: Yes, my name is Steve Russell
46 and I'm from the Soldotna area, and thank you for
47 letting me testify. I couldn't be here Wednesday
48 evening. I would like to submit this statement and
49 have it entered into the records of the public meeting

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1 of the regional advisory council on September 29th,
2 1995.

3
4 My name is Steve Russell and I live in the
5 Soldotna area. My statement generally deals with
6 Ninilchik being designated as a rural area. Keep in
7 mind that this was written before yesterday's proposal
8 to make the whole Peninsula rural.

9
10 I do not have a problem with Nanwalek, Port
11 Graham or even Seldovia having subsistence rights on
12 the Peninsula because they're not on the main highway
13 system. I do have a major problem with Ninilchik,
14 Cooper Landing and even Whittier being considered
15 rural. I've lived here for 22 years and I've seen
16 Ninilchik grow considerably in those years. I know a
17 fair number of Ninilchik residents and I know from
18 public opinion that there are very few residents of
19 Ninilchik that are for the area being designated rural.
20 I know of three, the Oskolkoffs, and Gary happens to
21 be on the Ninilchik Tribal Council.

22
23 I have done a fair amount of research on the
24 Ninilchik area as far as customary and traditional use
25 of moose, caribou, sheep, goat and bear. Previous to
26 the 1950s, it was pretty much a white Russian settle-
27 ment, to my understanding. The evidence given to the
28 public is, at best, shaky that Ninilchik residents
29 subsisted on these animals in the area and the
30 Tustumena area. The evidence that Ninilchik residents
31 traveled to the Skilak Loop area is practically non-
32 existent. Yet they were given 20 moose from this area
33 under a traditional -- traditional use disguise. I
34 asked the regional advisory council and the Federal
35 Subsistence Board to strike Ninilchik from having rural
36 designation and not to adopt a recent proposal to
37 designate the whole Peninsula as rural. That's it.
38 Thank you.

39
40 MR. HENRICHs: Yeah, what do you do for a
41 living?

42
43 MR. RUSSELL: I work at Carrs in Kenai.

44
45 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee.

46
47 MR. BASNAR: You said you did some research.
48 Could you tell us, you know, something about this
49 research that you did?

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1
2 MR. RUSSELL: Well, as far as -- most of the
3 research -- I went to the library and, you know,
4 checked around a couple books there which didn't have a
5 lot of -- most of my -- like I say, this is just a
6 statement. This is just what I've learned -- has been
7 from the local -- from people living in this area. All
8 the way from Ninilchik, you know, to Homer.

9
10 MR. BASNAR: You didn't have a scientific
11 research method that you...

12
13 MR. RUSSELL: Oh, no, no, no, no, uh-uh
14 (negative). And I didn't mean to imply that. You
15 know, this is just a -- I'm representing myself and
16 this is just my feelings on the matter.

17
18 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you. Questions? If
19 not, thank you.

20
21 MR. RUSSELL: Okay, thanks.

22
23 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The next person will be Mary
24 Ann Mills. Mary Ann?

25
26 MS. MILLS: Yes, I represent the Traditional
27 Denaina (ph) Tribe. And regarding the subsistence on
28 Ninilchik and the Kenai Peninsula, I believe that there
29 should be. And I've done a lot of research into the
30 laws and I've done a lot of subsistence fishing myself.
31 And one of the reasons, you know, our tribe is a
32 tradi-tional tribe and we believe in honor and we
33 believe in the truth. And when we started doing our
34 research, we found that the Constitution for the State
35 of Alaska stated that the state and its people forever
36 disclaimed all rights and titles to land, including
37 hunting and fishing rights, to the Alaska Natives. And
38 we would like to see the State and its people honor
39 this.

40
41 Also, we've done research into the health
42 problems of the indigenous people here in Alaska. And
43 we find that we have the highest disease rate in the
44 nation. And we believe that part of this is due to our
45 lack of subsistence. We feel also there has been many
46 doctors and doctors' reports that say the same thing.
47 The indigenous people, no matter where they are,
48 without their subsistence, their disease rate soars.
49 So it's more important, I think, for the indigenous

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1 people to have their subsistence. And I believe that
 2 it is time for the State and its people to come to
 3 terms with what they forever disclaimed and to honor
 4 that. And I believe that the problem of subsistence
 5 isn't the depletion of fish, or isn't the depletion of
 6 game because I don't think subsistence users would
 7 allow that to happen. And I believe that Ninilchik
 8 should have their subsistence priorities as well as all
 9 other indigenous people. Thank you.

10
 11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you, Mary Ann. I guess
 12 there were no questions anyway. We have -- we do have
 13 one more person. Just got the name of another person.
 14 If there's no objection, we'll have Sharon Croskey
 15 testify.

16
 17 MS. CROSKEY: I live in Kasilof and I'm a
 18 member of the Denaina (ph) Council. And let me tell
 19 you one thing about the council, it's traditional. And
 20 when we sit, we sit in a circle. An unbroken circle.
 21 And in an unbroken circle, you can't have a king or a
 22 president. We are mostly equal. And we have a
 23 chairman. But that's why I'm saying that ANSCA cannot
 24 represent me. Anyway, my fishing and hunting and
 25 subsistence area were around Kasilof because that's
 26 where I was raised. I was born in Fort Yukon, Alaska
 27 and the people in my village up there, they do subsist
 28 and they hunt as individuals and in groups.

29
 30 And I hunted and subsisted with my dad down
 31 here around Kasilof -- in the Kasilof area. And I have
 32 never given up my right, as far as I know, to do that.
 33 Or to -- I don't feel it's necessary to ask permission
 34 to do that because, you know, that's my right. It's my
 35 traditional right given to me by my ancestors, given to
 36 us by the Original Creator. And I just don't quite
 37 understand it when people can come in and say that they
 38 own -- they own all of this. You know, I just don't
 39 understand that. Anyway, I just wanted to say that I
 40 don't care about the rural question at all. It doesn't
 41 make any difference to me. I'm still as much Indian as
 42 those people in the villages. I should not, you know
 43 -- we are treated as individuals, not -- we don't have
 44 chiefs, you know. We don't -- are treated as a group
 45 so much but we are individuals and we do these things.
 46 And if a person needs to subsist, I think they should
 47 have that right. I think it should be a priority.
 48 Thank you.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you. Okay, we'll get
2 back to our agenda.

3
4 MR. BASNAR: You didn't ask her what she does
5 for a living, Bob.

6
7 MR. HEINRICHS: The ones I'm interested in are
8 ones that suggest to me if they have a financial
9 interest...

10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The next item is Item E,
12 Proposals for Change Methods and Means, Seasons,
13 Harvest Limits and Customary/Traditional Use
14 Determinations. It will be a review of regulatory
15 year.

16
17 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I
18 could provide a quick overview of the procedures. This
19 is now the third year that the council's been active in
20 the review of regulations and changes, so I'll be very
21 brief. As you recall, in the fall of each year the
22 proposed rule -- the existing federal regulations are
23 sent out for public review and proposals for change.
24 You'll find in the back of the notebook under Tab 9, a
25 photocopy of the Federal Register Notice the proposed
26 rule. That launches the annual cycle of proposed
27 changes to the federal subsistence regulations. The
28 next important step is the fall meeting of the council
29 at which the council, itself, could offer proposals for
30 change based on issues that have been raised or your
31 personal expertise about resource uses in the region.
32 The public also can offer proposals for change.
33 Proposals can be submitted as late as October 27th.
34 That's the deadline for new proposals. So from several
35 sources, proposed changes could come before the federal
36 board as late as October 27th.

37
38 The next step is to compile all of the
39 proposed changes and send them out, circulate them for
40 public review and comment and for staff analysis. So
41 from November to February, the proposed changes are out
42 for review. In February, the regional councils meet
43 again, and as we've done in the past, you hear what the
44 public comment is and what the technical staff analysis
45 provides. You make your formal recommendation in the
46 spring meeting or winter meeting. And your formal
47 recommendations, along with the technical staff work,
48 go before the Federal Subsistence Board in April. The
49 board makes those decisions in April and those

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1 regulations go into effect the following July. So
2 that's the annual cycle. There are lots and lots of
3 steps in the flow chart, lots of, you know, fine print.
4 But I think that's probably sufficient. We're all, at
5 this point, fairly familiar with the review process
6 each year. So I think with that, I'll conclude it as
7 far as an overview of the procedures.

8
9 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. And we have -- the
10 next thing then. Are you going to be talking, Bob,
11 about the elements of a good proposal?

12
13 MR. WILLIS: That's correct, Mr. Chair. If
14 you'll look in your book at Section 9E, you'll find a
15 yellow sheet there which says, Instructions for
16 Completing a Proposal Form. Behind that are a couple
17 of sample proposals that we put together. We've been
18 through this a couple of cycles now and, you know,
19 you're all familiar with the proposals that have come
20 in. You reviewed them for two years in a row. So I
21 don't want to go into a great deal of detail about what
22 makes a good proposal. As always, the main thing is
23 the amount and the quality of the information that
24 comes in with a proposal and how specific it is. So,
25 what we like to stress is that the people who want to
26 have a proposal change should let us know exactly what
27 proposal they want -- or excuse me, a regulation
28 changed, you can let us know exactly what that
29 regulation is by writing it out exactly as it's
30 written. And then to rewrite it the way they want to
31 see it written. That way, there's no possibility of a
32 misinterpretation on our part when we sit down with it
33 and try to evaluate what the impacts of that change
34 would be to the resource and to the subsistence user.

35
36 And the second thing is to give us some
37 information to work with, as much information as you
38 can get on a local basis. Ted Spraker spoke to this
39 briefly yesterday in another context in saying that,
40 except for Ben, no one had contacted him about
41 proposals or to get information of any kind. And he
42 was concerned about that and I am too because the thing
43 we stress most of all is that if -- when you want to
44 get a regulation changed in your area, there's almost
45 always somebody around there that can provide you with
46 a lot of information that will help you craft the
47 regulation that you want. And the example that I used
48 here after the yellow sheet where it says, Sample
49 Seasons and Harvest Limits, you'll probably recognize

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1 that. That's a proposal we dealt with last year on
 2 caribou up in Unit 13. And I have rewritten it a
 3 little bit just to put in all the information that came
 4 in from a couple of different sources. But if you'll
 5 read through that, you'll see there's a lot of good
 6 biological information on the caribou herd there and
 7 what the impacts of the change in hunt would be. And
 8 every bit of that information was available to anybody
 9 who would go by the Fish and Wildlife or the ADF&G
 10 office in Glennallen or the Bureau of Land Management
 11 office or pick up a telephone and give them a call.
 12 All this information was available. And that's why I
 13 decided to use this one as an example.

14
 15 So those are the main things that I wanted to
 16 stress. This year for the first time we're dealing
 17 with customary and traditional use proposals in the
 18 same manner as we have the regulatory changes in the
 19 past. And so this same form has a set of questions for
 20 people who want to create a new area of customary and
 21 traditional use or to modify one that's already on the
 22 books. And you'll find questions 6 through 9 deal with
 23 customary and traditional use. And Rachel Mason was
 24 going to talk about that some but she had to go on to
 25 the Southeast meeting. But I think the explanation is
 26 very straightforward and easily understood. The
 27 instruction sheet tells people how to fill that out.
 28 And I guess with that -- I'll ask you if you can glance
 29 over that for a minute and see if you have any
 30 questions. We're getting better at this. People are
 31 -- the information's getting out and people are
 32 submitting better proposals and I'm really glad to see
 33 that. There's always something lost in interpretation
 34 when we have to take one that's incomplete and try to
 35 figure out what the person wanted. And that person may
 36 not be readily available by telephone to get some
 37 follow-up information. Any questions?

38
 39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any questions? It don't look
 40 like it. Thank you. Okay, then I guess we -- the next
 41 item is just open the floor for proposals.

42
 43 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct, Mr. Chairman.

44
 45 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Are there any proposals that
 46 want to be proposed at this time?

47
 48 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, I might mention
 49 again, I now have it in the right place on the agenda

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1 but a C&T proposal was submitted Wednesday evening --
2 we mentioned it just briefly yesterday -- from the
3 Kenai Peninsula Outdoor Coalition. That proposal will
4 go before -- go out for public review and technical
5 staff analysis and come back before you in February for
6 formal recommendation...

7
8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: So we don't have to take it up
9 now.

10
11 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct. Just advising
12 the council that one proposal is already in at this
13 point and this would be the opportunity for council
14 members to identify proposal topics that you would want
15 to initiate or to hear from the public if there are any
16 additional proposals that the public would like to put
17 before you at this time.

18
19 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. You heard Taylor
20 Brelsford. If there any proposals, please let us know
21 here in the next few minutes. Ralph.

22
23 MR. LOHSE: I was just going to say, that was
24 in addition to the ones that we already, in our
25 priority list, identified might possibly come in.

26
27 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct. There were a
28 set of priorities in the backlog. The existing C&T
29 proposals that will start out and go through the
30 process beginning now.

31
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Move on? We were
33 supposed to be getting to a lunch break. Do you want
34 to continue until lunch?

35
36 UNIDENTIFIED: It's 10:30.

37
38 CHAIRMAN EWAN: So, we'll continue on down to
39 our annual report, 1995.

40
41 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, the annual
42 report is probably one of the most important
43 opportunities for the council to look forward to raise
44 up key resource issues -- management issues that you
45 would like resolved -- to the attention of the Federal
46 Subsistence Board. So it is potentially a very
47 important opportunity for you to provide long-term
48 strategic advice to the Federal Subsistence Board.
49 The Southcentral Council did prepare an annual report

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1 two years ago in the first year of your operations.
 2 And there was some delays and some breakdowns in the
 3 reply. And as a result, the council declined to
 4 prepare a report last year, waiting on a reply to the
 5 first one.

6
 7 At this point, you've now received a reply to
 8 the first annual report. This meeting would be the
 9 normal time to develop an annual report for this coming
 10 year for submission to the Federal Subsistence Board.
 11 The outline that was just circulated around to you
 12 identifies the four topics that are listed in ANILCA as
 13 items for a regional council annual report. And I
 14 think what you may want to consider, if the council is
 15 prepared to go forward with an annual report this year,
 16 is essentially to brainstorm some of the ideas, some of
 17 the elements that you would like in it. And then ask
 18 that the staff draft the text for your approval as the
 19 chair, Roy. Helga and I or Helga could take the ideas
 20 that you lay out, put it together in a brief statement,
 21 and then have that back in front of you for signature.
 22 So rather than suggesting we write the paragraphs this
 23 morning, it would, I think, be more a matter of
 24 identifying the issues or ideas that you would like
 25 included in an annual report.

26
 27 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. Why don't we just
 28 go down A, B, C that we have here. Yeah.

29
 30 MR. BRELSFORD: Okay.

31
 32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Go ahead and -- it seems to me
 33 like A would be more staff's responsibility. Or do you
 34 -- do you think we -- I guess, we have to play a role
 35 here too, huh? Anticipated uses of fish and wildlife
 36 population within a region. Lee.

37
 38 MR. BASNAR: Mr. Chairman, I think step one in
 39 this is to determine whether or not we want to be
 40 involved in an annual report before we go down the four
 41 items. A year ago we decided we didn't want to. And I
 42 think, you know, we ought to kick that around to see if
 43 we really feel the need for an annual report.

44
 45 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. What are your
 46 thoughts on it?

47
 48 MR. BASNAR: Well, based on past history, both
 49 of the SRC and at this council, and knowing what

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1 happens with an annual report -- the annual report
 2 doesn't go anywhere. Yeah, it goes to the Secretary of
 3 the Interior, right. He sits there and reads it,
 4 right. It ends up at the Federal Subsistence Board and
 5 it ends up at the staff. They compiled the thing for
 6 us in the first place. It doesn't do anything other
 7 than, you know, it occupies a lot of time for a lot of
 8 people. And I feel that we've got access without this
 9 report. If we have a concern, we, as council members,
 10 can get together and discuss the concern. We can vote.
 11 And we send it right straight to the man or the people
 12 who can act upon it. Why go through this facade, for a
 13 lack of better word, of reporting to the Secretary of
 14 the Interior when -- I mean, if it ever got to his
 15 office he'd say, "Hey Joe, take care of this problem
 16 for me." And here it comes, right back down the line
 17 through about 99 different channels and ends up back at
 18 the Subsistence Board. So I feel this is a waste of
 19 our time. Not that these issues aren't important,
 20 please don't get me wrong. They are important but I
 21 don't like this channel to go through when we can talk
 22 to the Subsistence Board ourselves as a result of our
 23 normal meetings.

24
 25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph.

26
 27 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chair, I was -- I wouldn't
 28 quite go as far as Lee on that but he's got stronger
 29 feelings on it than I do. I myself don't see any need
 30 for an annual report. I was thinking of the kind of
 31 things that I would like to have included in it and
 32 most of the things have gone already to Dick and to
 33 Taylor and are -- you know, I was thinking of the idea
 34 of, you know, I'd like clarity in regulations and stuff
 35 like that. Write it in language that people can read
 36 so you don't have to be a lawyer. I mean, those would
 37 be some of the things that I would like. But those are
 38 things -- those are concerns we've already brought to
 39 their attention. I don't see any need for an annual
 40 report. I feel the same as I did last year on it.
 41 What will end up happening is Helga will write us an
 42 annual report and we'll all okay it and that just makes
 43 more work for her.

44
 45 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other comments on it? I
 46 don't have any strong feeling one way or the other
 47 myself, personally. I would go along with the
 48 majority. Taylor.
 49

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1 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could
 2 raise one or two points for discussion. I think the
 3 potential for this to be an empty bureaucratic exercise
 4 is real and it serves nobody to just go through a
 5 repetitious process from one year to the next. I think
 6 the potential value...

7
 8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Are you going to make a
 9 recommendation? Do you want to make a recommendation
 10 to pick it up?

11
 12 MR. BRELSFORD: I think the potential value
 13 is if there are resource crises or important issues
 14 that go across the region or beyond the specifics of a
 15 season and a bag limit, this is a chance to raise the
 16 profile of it. I would say the value is as a strategic
 17 document. Describing everything going on in South-
 18 central Alaska is a repetitious exercise, I don't think
 19 it serves us. But highlighting problem areas that you
 20 want ongoing attention and resolution on, that would be
 21 a value in an annual report.

22
 23 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I thought along the same lines
 24 also...

25
 26 MR. BRELSFORD: So selected recommendations
 27 that you want to really raise up for attention, that I
 28 think is...

29
 30 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Speaking of that, can I
 31 mention something that I've brought up many times and
 32 that's, I don't know, wolf control. I know that that's
 33 a bad word -- bad two words amongst many people but
 34 I've brought it up again and again because I hunt in
 35 Unit 11 and Unit 11 is in the Wrangell-St. Elias
 36 National Park. And the park services, they don't do
 37 that. It's against their philosophy of managing
 38 national parks to control wolves. They'd rather go the
 39 natural process. But still, I think, there are other
 40 federal lands and we still can recommend a control be
 41 practiced -- I mean, a wolf control be practiced
 42 surrounding the unit that may affect Unit 11 somehow.
 43 In my opinion -- I've been out in the woods a lot over
 44 the years -- I know that wolf has a very large impact
 45 on the caribou and moose population.

46
 47 It's really, I guess, showing it in Unit 11.
 48 A decline in -- caribou population has dropped really
 49 dramatically in the last few years and I've been

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1 telling them, the park service, everybody that will
 2 listen that the wolves are really doing this. Wolf and
 3 bears. And the answer I've been getting is that "We
 4 just have to let nature take it's course." I really
 5 would like to see some kind of an effort to control
 6 wolves. Have some kind of a program. Be part of a
 7 program. Maybe it's a state program but anyway working
 8 -- the federal government working together with the
 9 state or somehow, an effort being made. That's
 10 something I have concern about. Fred.

11
 12 MR. JOHN: Yeah, just another -- my concern
 13 right now is the Kenai area. From where I am, I heard
 14 a lot of concern about, you know, we don't want the
 15 situation Kenai has right now and subsistence be up in
 16 the Copper River area. I think there should be some
 17 defining of rural and whatever, you know, the rural and
 18 urban because right now, we don't -- it seems like
 19 we're just burying our head in the sand trying to push
 20 it further back. I don't feel -- this is important to
 21 me -- I don't feel really comfortable leaving here
 22 without, you know, doing anything. Just keep shoving
 23 it back to the board. I think we should do something
 24 about it. I know -- I know that we all voted on it and
 25 I went along with it, you know. And I feel -- but
 26 there's really -- it seems like we're not -- I don't
 27 feel like we did anything. And I'm going to leave here
 28 not feeling we did anything for Kenai. I don't know if
 29 anybody else feel it. I kind of feel like that's
 30 important right now. And I think all the other
 31 councils are looking toward Kenai right now because I
 32 kind of feel that way. And we -- we haven't -- I don't
 33 feel fulfilled right now and I think Kenai is very
 34 important and I think that should be impressed upon the
 35 federal board and upon the Secretary of Interior. I
 36 think there's a lot of dissatisfied people down here
 37 and I don't blame them.

38
 39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Are you kind of saying we
 40 should make the Kenai Peninsula high priority for
 41 issues that we're dealing with down here?

42
 43 MR. JOHN: I believe it's a high priority,
 44 myself.

45
 46 CHAIRMAN EWAN: And you're, kind of, saying
 47 that we could -- we could deal with...

48
 49 MR. JOHN: I'm not saying...

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1
2 CHAIRMAN EWAN: ...the Federal Subsistence
3 Board...
4
5 MR. JOHN: I just don't feel fulfilled.
6
7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: What I hear Fred saying is we
8 need to -- the Federal Subsistence Board, the council,
9 everybody's got to make it a high priority to resolve
10 some of the issues on the Kenai Peninsula. I agree with
11 him. Any other comments on that?
12
13 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman. I -- judging
14 from how the A, B, C, and D of this report is supposed
15 to be put together, it seems to me that -- first of
16 all, some of it is just absolutely staff work. Infor-
17 mation that we don't have as far as specific numbers.
18 We may have concepts or speculate on specific things
19 but we don't have specific numbers. I think that what
20 was anticipated here is a much closer working relation-
21 ship between the agency staffs and the council. In
22 fact, when I look at this, what I see is that -- it's
23 something more similar to an executive director being
24 able to hand out assignments to various staff people
25 and then get specific reports back and specific
26 knowledge and then being able to put it in here.
27
28 As far as the regional council having that
29 kind of control over exactly what is reported and how
30 it is reported and how it comes back, we're not that
31 close. We're at somewhat of a distance still and I
32 think we're moving in the right direction and in time,
33 we probably will get there to where we can do some of
34 these things because we will have directed staff to
35 prepare some of these things for us. But in the
36 meantime, we have, basically, the ongoing information
37 that is normally prepared by the biologist and by staff
38 members and that kind of information. And we really
39 haven't changed that information to give us specific-
40 ally what we need. And I think we're -- the reason for
41 that is we're -- I think we're very dependent upon
42 local knowledge as we're supposed to be to a certain
43 extent. But I don't think we have these -- a good
44 number of this information at hand that we,
45 necessarily, could hand out in the report. Most of it
46 would be produced by staff anyhow.
47
48 The part that I think that we could do is the
49 recommendations -- it says, "Recommendations concerning

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1 policy standards, guidelines and regulations to
 2 implement the strategy." I think we're just developing
 3 that at this point. And I don't know that we could
 4 specifically answer the section that deals with this in
 5 that type of terminology. But I think we might want to
 6 look into what are the processes that could allow us to
 7 do these things. In other words, the way we're doing
 8 things right now, what would be the difference in order
 9 to allow us to work this closely or get this kind of
 10 information that we could make these direct changes and
 11 actually implement strategies. Essentially what I've
 12 seen and what I'm trying to say, I guess, with way too
 13 many words is that we haven't developed a strategy to
 14 manage things as much as we have adopted the correct
 15 management policies of the Fish and Wildlife and the
 16 Fish and Game, essentially. And we are trying to fit
 17 the subsistence users into those policies. We're
 18 trying to make those two mesh. And we haven't really
 19 made any of these policies ourselves.

20
 21 And so we really -- I don't think we've made
 22 an incursion into that substantial enough that would
 23 allow us to do some of these things that are asked in
 24 this report. I think the report could be very valuable
 25 if we were doing that. But I think at the present
 26 time, we don't have that ability. But I would suggest
 27 to the staff that we look at what it would take for us
 28 to be that far involved. And if it's very -- if it's
 29 even reasonably or it could even be reasonably expected
 30 that this council would be that involved in the day-to-
 31 day management.

32
 33 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, any other comments? I
 34 want to get back to my wolf comment. What does that
 35 have to do with subsistence? I believe it has a lot to
 36 do with subsistence. I forgot to point that out. They
 37 closed subsistence hunting in Unit 11. So it really is
 38 affecting the people in my region. So I think that
 39 wolf control should be looked at. Ralph.

40
 41 MR. LOHSE: I think what Roy is trying to say
 42 is that basically -- and I know we're going to run into
 43 a conflict with that because we're dealing with
 44 national park land -- but what we have is we don't have
 45 a subsistence priority there. If it was a subsistence
 46 priority, then we would operate with the basis that we
 47 were going to have that herd in good shape to produce,
 48 you know, food for subsistence users. And the park
 49 service, per se, has, like Roy said, the policy that

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1 you let nature take its course even if it means a
 2 reduction in ungulates. I know when I first came to
 3 the Unit 11, at that time that was right -- not too
 4 long after statehood. It was right after the Fish and
 5 Wildlife Services predator control program had been
 6 stopped for a few years. Ungulates were at a all-time
 7 high. I flew from Long Lake to Mount Drum (ph) in a
 8 straight line without deviation. I counted over 227
 9 bull moose right at timberline. Didn't bother to count
 10 cows and calves and things like that. Since that time
 11 our predator population, wolves and bears like he said,
 12 has increased tremendously. And you could fly that
 13 same line today -- in fact, friends of mine have -- and
 14 you'd be lucky to see four or five bull moose.

15
 16 The Fish and Wildlife Service at that time --
 17 and I'm not saying it was a good policy or a bad
 18 policy, but they operated with the idea that the
 19 production of food animals was more important than the
 20 production of the diversity of species. And so you had
 21 things like the Mentasta herd and the Nelchina herd and
 22 the moose population up in our country at high point.
 23 That's not true today. And we know that the area can
 24 actually produce more, but we've got competing
 25 predators -- subsistence users, bears and wolves
 26 competing for the same animals and the subsistence user
 27 currently is last after the bears and the wolves. I
 28 mean, and I think that's what Roy is getting at right
 29 there. I mean that, basically if subsistence is truly
 30 a high priority, where -- and people are important, do
 31 we place the other predators, the bears and the wolves,
 32 higher than subsistence or do we place subsistence
 33 higher than the bears and wolves?

34
 35 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Lee. Thank you, Ralph.

36
 37 MR. BASNAR: Roy, is this a problem that
 38 perhaps we can address -- and I agree you have a
 39 problem. I know you do. I don't think there's any
 40 prohibition from this council coming up with a proposal
 41 to the State Board of Game. I mean, this is a radical
 42 departure from the way we've been operating but the
 43 State doesn't prohibit certain groups from submitting
 44 proposals. We could submit a proposal to the State and
 45 if the State is concerned about the subsistence user,
 46 we might have a little additional weight that -- you
 47 know, maybe somebody will listen to us. Now, if the
 48 State killed a bunch of wolves on State land -- you
 49 know, we're not talking about the national park, but

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1 that would help, wouldn't it?

2
3 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Uh-huh (affirmative). Yeah,
4 the wolf, I believe, cross the Copper River. And once
5 they cross the Copper River they're in Unit 13. And
6 that really happens, I've seen them on the Copper
7 River, go up the Gulkana River, kill moose over on the
8 Gulkana River. So they're all over that area. I guess
9 the reason I keep bringing it up is that there's -- I
10 don't hear that mentioned at any Federal Subsistence
11 Board meeting or anywhere as a management tool. And
12 it's...

13
14 MR. LOHSE: Roy, I don't think you will hear
15 it mentioned very often because it's currently a very
16 politically incorrect management tool.

17
18 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I understand that.

19
20 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think there are
21 specific policies that govern certain federal agencies
22 as you pointed out. The National Park Service operates
23 under standard and healthy and natural populations. So
24 predator control or other manipulations of natural
25 populations are not permitted. Each of the agencies
26 has some specific guidelines and as a rule, predator
27 control is not a part of federal conservation units.
28 Perhaps the alternative that Lee is proposing is the
29 shortest path to the goal, but I think it can be raised
30 and highlighted in the annual report as a contradiction
31 or a key difficulty inside a federal subsistence
32 priority.

33
34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, I just wanted to say
35 that's kind of, to me, a stupid policy, anyway. It
36 seems to me like you could have both wolf and moose and
37 caribou, all three animals, at a healthy population if
38 you managed them properly. It seems to me like -- I
39 don't know. I'm not a biologist but I know that
40 there's quite a few people that support that idea. I
41 know a lot of people that are out in the rural area
42 support some kind of management to that effect.

43
44 MR. HENRICHS: I keep reading that the State's
45 going to come in with a sterilization program and
46 sterilize wolves to keep the population down. Maybe we
47 could hear something about that?

48
49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, John.

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1
2 MR. MORRISON: Well, it's been an idea but
3 it's not gone very far yet insofar as any definite
4 planning or -- it's just been proposed as a possi-
5 bility. It's kind of been thrown out to test the
6 public waters a little bit. We had a meeting in
7 Anchorage a week or so ago. The 40 mile caribou
8 planning team gave a presentation about the plan. The
9 people that attended the meeting -- public, was almost
10 entirely anti-hunting, anti-trapping, anti-wolf control
11 or predator control. And they gave the people from the
12 planning team a very bad time. There was nobody else
13 in the audience that really had much to say about the
14 plan. All they focused on was the wolf control aspect
15 of it and did so very voluble -- very, very bitterly.
16 I might add that the board is already -- the Federal
17 Subsistence Board, that is, has already had a couple of
18 proposals that are somewhat similar to this. One was
19 to dynamite beaver dams to allow better fish passage.
20 This is up in the Interior. The fish being important
21 for subsistence use. And the board turned that down as
22 not being a true subsistence issue for it to be
23 concerned with. And then this last spring, there were
24 some proposals to drastically increase bear harvest,
25 both here in Unit 15 as well as in Unit 14, and the
26 proposers asked that that be done to eliminate pressure
27 on game species that they wanted to harvest. Now who
28 these people were -- I don't know if they were subsis-
29 tence users or whatever. But nevertheless, if you'll
30 recall, the board turned that down because again, that
31 is not a direct issue with subsistence -- providing
32 subsistence. So whether or not they would now go for
33 something like what you're discussing is still
34 questionable.

35
36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I guess what I really am
37 recommending is this be -- you know, put it on the
38 agenda periodically for discussion. I'd like to see it
39 discussed. I'd like to see the federal agency working
40 with the State to see if there's some way that
41 everybody can work together on this.

42
43 MR. MORRISON: If you remember, the State
44 Legislature a year ago passed a bill for maximum yield,
45 I guess you might call it, in which the State agencies
46 were more or less directed to do everything possible to
47 maximize their production of caribou, moose, whatever
48 for human consumption. And it was implied in that, of
49 course, that predator control would be one of the

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1 management tools in achieving that maximum yield. So
2 -- and as you pointed out, Mr. Chairman, anybody and
3 everybody can submit a proposal to the State Board of
4 Game, including yourselves. And it would not be
5 inappropriate to approach them with that kind of an
6 idea.

7
8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Maybe next time. I think we
9 are taking a lot of time on this. Taylor, yes.

10
11 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I've understood two
12 possible priority issues to raise in the annual report.
13 One having to do with timely action on the Kenai
14 Peninsula questions and the other having to do with
15 wolf control. Rod had a point. He just came up and
16 whispered to me about the structure of the federal
17 board, the federal program and jurisdiction over
18 predator control. Perhaps you could explain.

19
20 MR. KUHN: Well, when we were developing the
21 regulations, a number of things came up like access and
22 lots of other issues came up. Predator control was one
23 of those. And in the structure of the program, that
24 was something that was excluded from the Federal
25 Subsistence Board's jurisdiction and from this program.
26 Predator control and access are things that are left
27 to agencies, how they manage their habitat and how they
28 manage those other sorts of things. It's not something
29 that you'll see in the regulations and it was
30 specifically excluded.

31
32 MR. BRELSFORD: What that means is that any
33 board discussion -- any discussion and recommendation
34 by the Federal Subsistence Board would go to individual
35 agencies. It would not take the form of a regulation
36 passed by the Federal Board itself. That's still
37 within line of the kind of cooperation and broad
38 discussion that you've talked about, Roy. So I think
39 it remains a valuable item to put on an annual report,
40 but we should all recognize that the Federal Board,
41 itself, doesn't have jurisdiction to pass a regulation
42 creating a predator control program.

43
44 MR. LOHSE: They can't take action then.

45
46 MR. BRELSFORD: Directly, no.

47
48 MR. LOHSE: Okay.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Any other items we need
 2 to talk about? I heard discussion that we don't need
 3 an annual report but I see the importance of bringing
 4 up issues like we brought up here -- I brought up. I
 5 think a good place to do that.

6
 7 MR. BRELSFORD: I think that I -- maybe if
 8 we're heading towards the close, I could finish with
 9 one point. And that is that the board has realized
 10 there's a lot of dissatisfaction with the annual report
 11 process. And they have actually asked for an oppor-
 12 tunity to talk about how to make something valuable out
 13 of the annual report at this executive session in mid-
 14 November with the chairs of all 10 regional councils.
 15 So a more direct role by the board -- a greater value
 16 out of the annual reports is something that they want
 17 to take up directly with the council chairs in mid-
 18 November.

19
 20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Is that it then on
 21 this?

22
 23 MR. BRELSFORD: I'd take the guidance to be
 24 we'll proceed with a brief annual report highlighting
 25 two areas for recommendation or consideration and that
 26 would come back before you for signature, Roy.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN EWAN: If there's no objection.

29
 30 MR. LOHSE: It sounds good to me.

31
 32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: It's all right? Do you
 33 object?

34
 35 MR. LOHSE: No, I don't object.

36
 37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Oh, okay.

38
 39 MR. LOHSE: It sounds good to me. I think
 40 that...

41
 42 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. We'll move on...

43
 44 MR. LOHSE: In other words, basically what the
 45 annual report will be is just issues that we see as
 46 burning issues on our council.

47
 48 MR. BRELSFORD: Key issues, right.

49

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1 MR. LOHSE: Okay. And now we don't have to
2 report everything we've done.

3
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay the next item is Regional
5 Council Training Needs.

6
7 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is again an
8 item that the board had asked us to take up with each
9 of the 10 regional councils collectively and to
10 identify areas like parliamentary process or board
11 procedure or things like wildlife management, terms and
12 concepts and principles. A number of individual items
13 have been raised in one area or another. But we wanted
14 to ask all 10 councils to identify anything they would
15 like so that we could prepare a program within the next
16 year for training or orientation activities for the 10
17 regional councils together. So any topics that -- it's
18 input basically at this point that we're asking.

19
20 MR. LOHSE: Now are -- just this question.
21 Are you talking about having a training meeting with
22 the 10 council, you said, together. Or do you mean, to
23 come up with a package that would be applicable to all
24 10 councils?

25
26 MR. BRELSFORD: It's the latter one that I
27 meant. I didn't say it very clearly.

28
29 MR. LOHSE: Okay. To come up with -- to come
30 up with things that we see as important that all 10
31 councils have access to.

32
33 MR. BRELSFORD: Right.

34
35 MR. LOHSE: Okay.

36
37 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I'd -- one thing
38 I would like to suggest for that packet is that we, as
39 council members, get a chance to understand better the
40 staff procedures. Their limitations, their responsi-
41 bilities and exactly the process that is used within
42 that time-lines, guidelines, laws, regulations, that --
43 procedures that must be followed or areas which perhaps
44 aren't well defined as they relate to council business,
45 not only proposals but the day-to-day business, the
46 inter-workings. In other words, I want to take apart
47 the clock and see the little gears move in there and
48 see exactly how they move. I think what has been a
49 concern for some council members -- and I've heard this

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1 from other areas too -- is that they don't really
 2 understand the procedures in specific, that there are
 3 generalities on how it works and then all of a sudden,
 4 something gets sidetracked in which they had an
 5 interest in. And I would just like to see that more or
 6 less mapped out so that people feel that they have a
 7 good grasp of the overall procedure.

8
 9 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Any other comments on
 10 Suggestions for training needs? When are you thinking
 11 about doing this?

12
 13 MR. BRELSFORD: I think one idea is that we
 14 would try and do something each year in the fall.
 15 Maybe set aside an hour during the fall meetings. I
 16 think the spring meetings tend to be very busy with
 17 proposals. But the fall meeting is a time to do a
 18 little more in the way of planning or council
 19 development. So I would say, you know, our idea would
 20 be to get started on this next fall. Perhaps the
 21 wildlife biology, the conservation terms and concepts
 22 is the first step. We're already underway developing
 23 some reference material -- resource materials for that.
 24 But if there are other key issues, you know, we would
 25 try and do them -- bring something back next fall
 26 basically.

27
 28 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, one other thing
 29 is that I (indiscernible - cough) I guess about
 30 specifics in my last comment. In this one I'd like to
 31 speak in a little more generality in that there seems
 32 to be some question now and then that arises with
 33 regard to what is the intent of ANILCA. What was the
 34 genesis of it? Where was it going at the time? With
 35 particular regard to Title 8, and I think perhaps some
 36 background information on how it came about, who wrote
 37 it, some of the reasoning behind it, would help people
 38 be more aware of exactly where they're going in
 39 developing these policies to understand what the
 40 intention was originally.

41
 42 I think everybody has some idea. And I think
 43 some ideas are different than perhaps the reality. And
 44 I think it would be wise to perhaps bring everybody in
 45 line on that. And I think it would be very helpful for
 46 new members. You know, perhaps a primer that could be
 47 left -- could be available for new members in the
 48 future who -- because it would be a real shock, I
 49 think, for most anyone to jump on this council one day

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1 and have to come up to speed without that type of
 2 information. But I think it would also be a good idea
 3 to get everybody rolling in the same direction or
 4 similar. Or it would help -- help to do that.

5
 6 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph.

7
 8 MR. LOHSE: I was thinking that what -- one
 9 thing that would be real helpful is to know what kind
 10 of limitations we have. You know, there are
 11 limitations on proposals that we can make. There are
 12 biological limitations, social limitations, consti-
 13 tutional limitations, legal limitations. And it'd kind
 14 of be -- you know, there are things that look good to
 15 us as individuals that just don't meet those limita-
 16 tions. And it would be nice to have some of those
 17 limitations down. A prime one -- one right off the top
 18 of my head that I can think of is that we need to keep
 19 in mind is that fact that the idea that all game
 20 resources are managed for continual health of the game
 21 population, even at the expense of subsistence. I
 22 mean, that takes a priority. And those kind of
 23 limitations are something that -- there's times that we
 24 need to face those.

25
 26 The example would be the Mentasta herd where
 27 we would like to open it up for subsistence, but we
 28 recognize that with the shape of the herd, the crash,
 29 the no recruitment. Despite the fact that we want to
 30 subsistence hunt on it, we can't have it until the
 31 animals come -- you know, until the herd gets in.
 32 That's just an example, you know, and that's the kind
 33 of thing that we need to understand. Or that all units
 34 need to understand.

35
 36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Anybody want to give him
 37 additional limitations. I know one that you didn't
 38 mention and that is public funding. There's a lot of
 39 things that you could recommend but it requires money
 40 to do, you know. If you want to have additional
 41 meetings or training sessions or I was thinking about
 42 maybe touring the area -- things like that that would
 43 cost money.

44
 45 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I happen to
 46 agree with that. I think it would be wise for us to
 47 understand what is available. What can we do? And
 48 what procedure does it take for those things to happen?
 49 Also, with regard to that, it might be a good idea to

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1 have a -- and I hope the book would, in its approach,
 2 that it's dealing with all the councils, that perhaps
 3 it would give some of the variety that other councils
 4 have used in order to get to some of these different
 5 opinions like maybe the fact of touring of something
 6 like that. Perhaps maybe there's a council that's
 7 already doing that. How did they do it? What is the
 8 easy way to get that across? How are some of the ones
 9 -- some of the councils -- perhaps somebody's looking
 10 into their budget. We don't know. We don't sit on
 11 those councils. Perhaps that information is available,
 12 it's been done and it's something that we'd like to
 13 look into and maybe even copy.

14
 15 There's one other point I wanted to bring up
 16 and that is the -- an understanding of -- we constantly
 17 -- since we're in a situation in which this is a
 18 relatively hot topic, there's a lot of legal work going
 19 on behind the scenes. There are -- asks for changing
 20 in the law constantly. Changes in the regulation. I
 21 (indiscernible - cough) understanding of how we are to
 22 react. For instance, when we're given a decision by a
 23 court or an appeals court or what-have-you and it deals
 24 with the issue of -- as it did this last time -- with
 25 the issue of rural and non-rural on the Kenai Penin-
 26 sula, something that we're dealing with directly. How
 27 does that interface? We didn't even have a discussion
 28 about that most recent court decision at this
 29 particular meeting. And I find that, you know, a bit
 30 odd but I would just be curious as to how that's
 31 supposed to brought up and how we're supposed to deal
 32 with that on a meeting-by-meeting level.

33
 34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: You had a comment? Do you
 35 have...

36
 37 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think Gary raises a
 38 good point. Perhaps as a more regular feature of the
 39 council meeting each time, we could provide a bit more
 40 of an update on recent events. I know for us within
 41 the Federal Subsistence Program, we have to be briefed
 42 on the consequences -- the impacts of recent judicial
 43 decisions and so on. And maybe we need to make a more
 44 systematic effort to carry that forward to the councils
 45 on a regular basis. Perhaps even, you know, something
 46 -- kind of a catch-up compilation of recent legislation
 47 or recent court rulings as a part of a training package
 48 would be a good idea. So I made note of it, Gary.

49

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1 MR. OSKOLKOFF: I think what I'm -- what I'm
 2 trying to say is that when one of these things get
 3 copied and I don't know how many other members of the
 4 council get a copy of them, but it seems like everybody
 5 gets a copy, almost, in the State when these things
 6 come out or has access to a copy that you would know
 7 while you're reading it how it's going to apply to your
 8 situation. And that's what I'm talking about too is
 9 how do I apply this? Is it something I just read and I
 10 continue on with my business and then wait for it to
 11 work it's way through the court system. Or now that it
 12 is an interpretation by a judge, do I have to -- you
 13 know, do I have to take this as the interpretation I'm
 14 going to have to deal with and react to that. Both pro
 15 and con in different situations. And I think that that
 16 could be, perhaps, a primer for education for all the
 17 council members. And then second to that -- or also
 18 along with that, I think it's a good idea just what you
 19 mentioned, that there be a constant feedback on how
 20 these particular things are to be treated and how they
 21 interact with the workings of the council at the time.

22
 23 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think it's fair to say
 24 that any court action which is binding on the Federal
 25 Subsistence Program would be put before you as an
 26 action item. The Katie John decision, when it comes to
 27 the final stage, will have dramatic impacts on the
 28 Federal Subsistence Program. There are a lot of
 29 decisions in other courts, state courts for example,
 30 that would be for information only. They're not
 31 binding on this program. So I don't think we've ever
 32 dropped a ball when there's a case of a court decision
 33 that directly affects your action, but I'm not sure
 34 we've done as much as we could to maintain the
 35 information flow on other items.

36
 37 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Well, and I agree. I don't
 38 think the staff has dropped the ball and I'm not saying
 39 that. What I'm saying is, that if we understood how
 40 and when -- there is always one side, the losing side
 41 who says, "Well, wait 'til this gets to the Supreme
 42 Court. And it's going to get there. This is an
 43 important issue." And sometimes, they do and most of
 44 the time, they don't. And we need to know at what
 45 point does it become binding? At what point does it
 46 start to influence our decision-making process here?
 47 And that really hasn't been brought out. We just hear
 48 about these cases -- read about them in the newspaper,
 49 Perhaps read the decisions and don't really have an

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1 understanding exactly how it affects us. That's all I
2 was trying to say.

3
4 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Anything else on the list that
5 we're giving them. Could you tell us -- give us a
6 quick review of what we have now?

7
8 MR. BRELSFORD: Sure. The first one is
9 prepare materials so the council members have a clearer
10 picture of staff procedures, time-lines, guidelines in
11 law, the workings of the interagency staff. Secondly,
12 review the legislative history of the ANILCA Title 8.
13 Identify the intent, the genesis, who wrote it, how it
14 came about. Thirdly, identify limitations on proposals
15 the councils can make. Biological, constitutional,
16 legal limitations for example. Funding limitations
17 also. Fourth, consider tours or orientations to the
18 region. Fifth,...

19
20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Was that based on my comment?

21
22 MR. BRELSFORD: Uh-huh (affirmative).

23
24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I just wanted to point out
25 that there was -- Ralph was counting -- he wanted to
26 know the limitations as we considered our training
27 needs, I guess. And I just mentioned funding if we
28 were going to do that. I'm not suggesting that we do
29 that. I've heard council members say that it would be
30 a good idea to tour the area sometime, some areas like
31 even the Kenai Peninsula to get a better understanding
32 of the area that we're discussing. Maybe you have --
33 what I was saying was, maybe the agencies have -- or
34 the Fish and Game has some -- not Fish and Game, Fish
35 and Wildlife Service has some funding limitations to
36 allow that. That's what I was...

37
38 MR. BRELSFORD: I see. No, I had included
39 funding limitation under the category of limitations.

40
41 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, okay.

42
43 MR. BRELSFORD: But I thought the orientation
44 to the region was perhaps a separate idea that you
45 wanted on the table.

46
47 MR. LOHSE: Could I make a suggestion in that
48 area? This is just a personal observation suggestion.
49 One of the ways that we can get a little of this

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1 without any additional cost, in fact, usually even at a
 2 cheaper cost, is if anybody has time and if it's at all
 3 possible, instead of using airplanes to go someplace,
 4 use your own vehicle and be paid a mileage for driving.
 5 It was, you know, I consider my drive down here well
 6 worth the time it took me just what learned about the
 7 Kenai Peninsula. The cost to the agency was no more,
 8 in fact, was less than if I'd have flown. The amount
 9 that I learned from it was fantastic. We should
 10 encourage that. We should give that every opportunity
 11 we can. And if somebody has the time to drive to one
 12 of the meetings, any place we're going to have the
 13 meeting is in Southcentral and any place you're driving
 14 through, you're going to get an idea of what it's like
 15 on the way there. It doesn't mean that I'm saying that
 16 everybody should drive to the meeting. Don't get me
 17 wrong. But what I'm saying is, I think that could be
 18 one way to encourage this learning a little bit more
 19 about your area.

20
 21 MR. BRELSFORD: Roy, did you want that to stay
 22 in as a topic?

23
 24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, leave it in if you -- I
 25 heard that -- that was suggested by Gary, I believe.
 26 Maybe even a Copper River region some day. I have a
 27 van or something take the people through the valley
 28 there and show them the villages and so on. I think
 29 that's a good suggestion. It has been done by other
 30 agencies. I've served on advisory councils on other
 31 agencies and I've seen that done. It's very effective.
 32 You know what you're talking about. This was when I'd
 33 served on BLM Advisory Council. We talked about mines
 34 out in the area. But we were talking about it, you
 35 know, with people that are from areas like Unalakleet,
 36 Anchorage, that don't know the Copper River area and
 37 the mines that are out there. And it was an eye opener
 38 when they found out that these were good clean
 39 operations and so on, you know. So I mean, I think it
 40 is good.

41
 42 MR. HENRICHS: I liked this evening session we
 43 had the other night because a lot of people work and
 44 they can't show up during the day. And I think it's
 45 real important when we're not meeting in Anchorage that
 46 we have those. And I wouldn't even mind having an
 47 evening session when the meetings are in Anchorage
 48 because a lot of people that would show up have to work
 49 and they would probably -- more people would show in

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1 the evening. I like those evening sessions.
2
3 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Do you have others on the list
4 then that we...
5
6 MR. BRELSFORD: The last one was an under-
7 standing of how to react to court decisions when they
8 come to affect council actions. And I think, more
9 broadly, kind of an update of information about court
10 decisions.
11
12 MR. OSKOLKOFF: And also ones that don't
13 affect the action. We should be, you know, made aware
14 that this has little or no effect or to what level it
15 does.
16
17 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Well, we'll move on if there's
18 no other suggestions. We're done with that. We're
19 pretty much done with the business, right?
20
21 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Unless somebody's got new
22 business.
23
24 MR. BRELSFORD: Right. Unless there's any
25 other new business. I think...
26
27 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any other new business? Any
28 comments from the council members on anything? Lee.
29
30 MR. BASNAR: I have a question, Mr. Chairman,
31 on this -- this has always confused me. It's just a
32 case of ignorance on my part but, we voted and approved
33 the agenda items before the meeting. And now we come
34 to a place in the agenda that says Is There Any Other
35 New Business. And I'm just confused -- I don't know if
36 we could -- not that I had any, I just want to know the
37 answer. If I had some, could I bring up new business
38 now when we voted on the agenda item. I don't know.
39
40 MR. JOHN: That's the agenda.
41
42 MR. OSKOLKOFF: That's the agenda you voted
43 on. Yeah, you could.
44
45 MR. BASNAR: Okay.
46
47 MR. JOHN: Yeah. You could bring up new
48 business, yeah.
49

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1 MR. BASNAR: Thank you.

2
3 MR. LOHSE: Well, one way that a lot of times
4 it's done is you bring up the new business first, you
5 put it under Any Other New Business and then you vote
6 on your agenda. That's the proper way so that other
7 people have -- other people know what you're going to
8 bring up at the end of the meeting. Actually, if
9 somebody has new business that they don't see on the
10 agenda, they should bring it up at the start of the
11 meeting before we vote on the agenda. We should put it
12 under Any Other New Business. And then we should vote
13 to accept the agenda with the new business on it.

14
15 MR. BASNAR: That was my understanding.

16
17 MR. LOHSE: So that people in the audience,
18 after the first day, know what else is coming up so
19 that they can be there. That's technic- -- I think if
20 we check into it, I think we'll technically find that
21 that's the way parliamentary procedure is done. But in
22 the past...

23
24 MR. BASNAR: I didn't think we could legally
25 open it again because you know, you could really
26 sandbag a bunch of people.

27
28 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, somebody could be leaving
29 and you could wait 'til certain people leave and then
30 bring it up as other new business.

31
32 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Can we in the future identify
33 Any Other Business at the -- as we adopt the agenda.
34 Yeah. And then...

35
36 MR. BRELSFORD: Yeah. Try and be more careful
37 about that.

38
39 MR. LOHSE: Yeah. Because it has the
40 potential to be very -- you know, all you have to do is
41 hope that some people leave early and then bring
42 something up.

43
44 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Well, I think, Mr. Chairman, I
45 think the concept behind it at the time that -- and we
46 had discussed that -- is that we wanted to leave things
47 as open as possible because people are coming and
48 going. People can only be here on certain days. Many
49 people were here the one evening and then the next day

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1 we had very few members of the public. And there were,
 2 you know, various issues and whatnot that come up. And
 3 I can understand it being open but I have to agree also
 4 that it's a -- perhaps we need more of a procedure
 5 there so those kind of things as you're mentioning
 6 don't occur. Not that they have yet but perhaps we can
 7 kind of lay that out a little bit better. One thing I
 8 wanted to mention too is that usually when there is new
 9 business to come up -- if you want to get more exact on
 10 the parliamentary procedures and the normal way of
 11 handling things on these boards is that -- there's
 12 usually -- well, there's usually a previous time that
 13 you have to get the information in by. So everybody
 14 has a chance to read a proposal or get background
 15 information or talk to whoever they want to talk to in
 16 order to see that in advance.

17
 18 And I agree that just by allowing us space,
 19 wherever it is, to just bring something up and now
 20 we're going to act on it makes it somewhat more
 21 difficult. People are somewhat less informed. In many
 22 cases you would have to bring it up at the previous
 23 meeting and then you're not allowed to act on it until
 24 the next -- 'til the following meeting in which people
 25 have a great deal of time to work on things. But then
 26 on the other hand, it makes it very difficult to work
 27 on something, you know, that's vitally important. And
 28 what I'm saying by bringing up both point on that is
 29 maybe perhaps what we need is a procedure that allows
 30 for that and then adopt that procedure and that will be
 31 the way we deal with things in the future until we need
 32 to fine tune it.

33
 34 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Ralph.

35
 36 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman, I agree with Gary
 37 there. And what I would like to see, is I would like
 38 to see any new business that somebody wants to bring
 39 up, be able to be brought up but no action would be
 40 taken on it. In other words, it goes on -- New Business
 41 that's brought up at this point in time would be put on
 42 the next agenda. Any new business on which there
 43 needs to be action taken, should be put on the agenda
 44 at the start of the meeting. I mean we should bring it
 45 up at the start of the meeting before we vote on the
 46 agenda, put the new business on and then we can act on
 47 it at the end of the meeting. But we don't want to
 48 close it off that somebody might want -- out in the
 49 public or one of us might have come up with something

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1 while we sat here that we want to bring to everybody
 2 else's attention. We should be able to bring it up
 3 under Any New Business and put it down here so that we
 4 have it for the future meeting but not be able to take
 5 action on it. Does that kind of go along with what
 6 you're saying, Gary?

7
 8 MR. OSKOLKOFF: It does go along with what I'm
 9 saying but I think there might be exceptions that we
 10 might want to plan for in that we may be dealing with a
 11 time crunch. We don't meet for the next three months
 12 and there's a technical correction perhaps needs to be
 13 made in a season or bag limit, something like that.
 14 And in those cases there -- you know, there usually is
 15 some level of urgency that one can determine that
 16 allows you to get around that. Not everything falls
 17 into -- not such a low threshold that everything can
 18 say, "well, this is very important. We need to slide
 19 this one in there."

20
 21 The other way to handle that is that (a) a
 22 quorum must still be present and (b) perhaps a super
 23 majority of that quorum in order to allow something
 24 that, you know, to get on the agenda at that time.
 25 But, you know, I hate get bogged down in a whole bunch
 26 of different things.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I don't think we should get
 29 too technical. I think that if we have a quorum -- I
 30 agree with you, Gary. I think that we should be
 31 flexible enough to -- if Fred or someone else here
 32 feels that they have a very important thing at the end
 33 of the day they want to bring up and there's no real
 34 objections from the council members to deal with that
 35 issue, I think we ought to be able to do that myself.
 36 I don't know how you people feel.

37
 38 MR. LOHSE: Mr. Chairman.

39
 40 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I'd like the process that both
 41 Ralph and Gary outlined. If there's no objection to
 42 that, maybe we can go along those lines. Identify some
 43 of the items when we adopt the agenda. Those will be
 44 the New Business, and sort of make the -- identify some
 45 items that could be on the agenda for the next meeting,
 46 and maybe a little discussion on it to give -- informa-
 47 tional discussion right? Is that what you're
 48 suggesting? As other business. Or other whatever it
 49 is. Whatever you want to call it. Is that what...

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1
2 MR. OSKOLKOFF: You do always have the option
3 of suspending the procedures -- the existing parlia-
4 mentary procedures to allow for -- but it usually has
5 to be done unanimously. And if we're operating under
6 Robert's Rules of Order, we have that option if -- if
7 that -- and that keeps it from being, you know, one
8 sided or the other, I think, to a large degree because
9 we have to have unanimous consent usually to do that.

10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: No other suggestions? Okay,
12 there's no problem. The suggestion is good. All
13 right?

14
15 MR. BRELSFORD: All right. Got it.

16
17 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I guess that's it then.

18
19 MR. BRELSFORD: I think the last item has --
20 pardon me...

21
22 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Go ahead.

23
24 MR. BRELSFORD: ...to do with the winter
25 meeting schedule and the last item in your notebooks
26 just following Tab 10 is a calendar that shows the
27 start and ending date of the regional council meeting
28 schedule for the wintertime. All 10 councils will meet
29 somewhere between January 26th and March -- pardon me
30 -- January 29 and March 1st. So if you guys want to
31 discuss the schedule and place for the winter
32 meeting...

33
34 MR. BASNAR: The very last page in the book.

35
36 MR. BRELSFORD: Is that not in each of the --
37 do we have some...

38
39 MR. OSKOLKOFF: No, I got it. It's way at the
40 back.

41
42 MR. BRELSFORD: It wasn't in mine. It's
43 supposed to follow Tab 10.

44
45 CHAIRMAN EWAN: No, I don't have it.

46
47 MR. BRELSFORD: Okay, please.

48
49 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Go ahead. You were saying?

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1
2 MR. BRELSFORD: It's only a matter of if you
3 want to discuss identifying a time and place for your
4 next meeting, this would be the guideline. The
5 sideboards.
6
7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Do you have any suggestions?
8 I know that Helga suggested the -- I remember the
9 winter meeting date one time for some reason or another
10 I don't remember.
11
12 MR. BRELSFORD: I think one thing we've tried
13 to do is not stack up all 10 councils in the same week.
14 We try to spread them out across this month available.
15 But you guys are the first council -- Southeast is
16 meeting at the same time. Monday, we'll coordinate and
17 for the later councils, tell them which weeks are
18 already taken or which dates are already taken up. But
19 basically you've got an open calendar at this point to
20 select from.
21
22 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, when
23 is the next board meeting?
24
25 MR. BRELSFORD: The board meeting is scheduled
26 for April generally. The actual date is going to be in
27 the flow chart in Item 9 -- I think it was 9B. No, I'm
28 wrong about that. It's not 9B. It's 9C. Gary, this
29 real detailed flow chart.
30
31 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Oh, yeah.
32
33 MR. BRELSFORD: It's going to have the federal
34 board meeting window between April 1st and April 5th is
35 the schedule for this coming year.
36
37 CHAIRMAN EWAN: There was suggestions for
38 during the federal -- I mean the Fur Rendezvous in
39 Anchorage.
40
41 MR. LOHSE: And all meetings at night.
42
43 MR. BRELSFORD: I'm sorry, I got lost. Dick
44 was tagging me about -- Gary, technically there is a
45 board meeting in November. The April meeting is...
46
47 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Someone suggested the week of
48 the federal -- I keep saying federal -- Fur Rendezvous,
49 which is -- probably be the 23rd or 24th, somewhere

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1 around there, right? Or 16th, I don't know one or the
2 other 16th or 17th.
3
4 MR. BRELSFORD: And -- I'm sorry, I may have
5 missed...
6
7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The Fur Rendezvous...
8
9 MR. BRELSFORD: ...the earlier comment.
10
11 CHAIRMAN EWAN: ...week.
12
13 MR. BRELSFORD: Your preference would be to do
14 it that same week?
15
16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, uh-huh (affirmative).
17
18 MR. OSKOLKOFF: You'll get a hard time getting
19 a room unless you book it today.
20
21 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, I just don't like crowds.
22 Do you like crowds?
23
24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: No.
25
26 MR. HENRICHS: Is the next meeting going to be
27 in Anchorage?
28
29 CHAIRMAN EWAN: I don't know. I'm just saying
30 somebody suggested this and you can have your own date
31 -- place.
32
33 MR. BASNAR: I personally would -- you know,
34 Fur Rendezvous may be fun and all but I'd rather have a
35 meeting and avoid all that mob scene and trying to find
36 hotel rooms for us would be difficult.
37
38 MR. LOHSE: Sounds like Cordova.
39
40 CHAIRMAN EWAN: In February?
41
42 MR. LOHSE: In Cordova, February is beautiful.
43 It's the driest month of the year.
44
45 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Mr. Chairman, we'd talked
46 about having a meeting in the Interior or in Cordova, I
47 think, in previous meetings. And for some reason we
48 weren't able to accommodate that. But I don't know...
49

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1 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Do you have enough hotel space
2 there?
3
4 MR. HENRICHS: Oh, yeah.
5
6 MR. OSKOLKOFF: ...and I'd like to kind of
7 spread it around. I haven't been to Cordova since I
8 was in high school.
9
10 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Can you fly in and out?
11
12 MR. LOHSE: We have hotel space. Alaska
13 Airlines flies in three times a day. February's our
14 driest month, which doesn't mean a lot. The
15 temperature will probably be about 40 degrees.
16
17 MR. BASNAR: Above?
18
19 MR. LOHSE: Above.
20
21 MR. OSKOLKOFF: You've always got to question
22 that.
23
24 MR. MORRISON: You might ask Mr. Lohse when
25 the Iceworm Festival is. That (indiscernible -
26 laughter).
27
28 MR. HENRICHS: You won't get a room then
29 either unless you...
30
31 MR. LOHSE: Huh?
32
33 MR. HENRICHS: You wouldn't get a room then
34 either unless you booked one now.
35
36 MR. LOHSE: No, we wouldn't. I think Ice- --
37 I think, my wife would probably know and she's probably
38 not here. I think Iceworm Festival's the first weekend
39 in February. Does that kind of strike you...
40
41 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, that's when it normally
42 is.
43
44 MR. LOHSE: You know, so, you wouldn't want to
45 be there that weekend. You'd want to be there a little
46 later in the month, I would think.
47
48 MR. HENRICHS: Two hotels there and there's...
49

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1 MR. LOHSE: Two hotels; there's lots of bed
2 and breakfasts. There's an inn. A couple of inns,
3 really, and two motels. There's really quite a bit of
4 space there. And it has, as far as any place to fly
5 to, it's one of the easiest places to fly to in the
6 state. Alaska Airlines has two flights a day -- three
7 flights a day into it.
8
9 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Does the ferry still run?
10
11 MR. HENRICHS: Oh, yeah.
12
13 MR. LOHSE: The ferry still runs...
14
15 MR. HENRICHS: That would be good to take one.
16
17 MR. OSKOLKOFF: I'd like to take a ferry.
18
19 MR. HENRICHS: Go from Seward over and then
20 you'd see the Sound, you know.
21
22 MR. OSKOLKOFF: That's exactly how I got over
23 there before. Enjoyed that.
24
25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The date. Let's set a date
26 and then we'll talk about places.
27
28 MR. HENRICHS: Except the ferry doesn't run in
29 Seward in February...
30
31 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Any date that people are tied
32 up in February?
33
34 MR. ROMIG: Roy, I'd like to -- if we're not
35 going to do it in Anchorage, I'd like to be able to
36 maybe go to the Fur Rendezvous, so I wouldn't like to
37 do it at that time.
38
39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Other time?
40
41 MR. ROMIG: Other than the Fur Rendezvous.
42
43 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay.
44
45 MR. BASNAR: You know, I'm -- in response to
46 your question Roy, I'm tied up February 2nd, 3rd and
47 4th.
48
49 MR. JOHN: What about that week -- the week of

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1 February 5 to February 10, somewhere around there.
 2 That's in between the Fairbanks and the winter
 3 carnival. I mean the Iceworm Festival.
 4
 5 MR. LOHSE: Iceworm, right.
 6
 7 CHAIRMAN EWAN: The week of February 5th?
 8
 9 MR. JOHN: 5, yeah. That week sometime.
 10
 11 MR. BRELSFORD: So like 6, 7, 8? Tuesday
 12 'till Thursday?
 13
 14 MR. JOHN: Yeah, somewhere around there.
 15
 16 MR. ROMIG: I don't know, I thought that, you
 17 know, having it on Wednesday and then working into the
 18 weekend was a good idea too. Then that way you'd get a
 19 couple days of your week.
 20
 21 MR. LOHSE: To get a little bit of work out of
 22 it.
 23
 24 MR. BRELSFORD: I was trying to avoid
 25 traveling on the weekend but that's an easy solution
 26 that way as well.
 27
 28 MR. OSKOLKOFF: For me it just shoots the
 29 whole week...
 30
 31 MR. BRELSFORD: Tuesday to Thursday?
 32
 33 MR. OSKOLKOFF: ...since I don't do this for a
 34 living, it would be nice if it were at the end of the
 35 week so I could part of...
 36
 37 MR. LOHSE: Wednesday works real good because
 38 then you, at least, can get a couple days of work in
 39 that week.
 40
 41 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Yeah, I think that's better
 42 for the working members. For myself, I know that I'd
 43 have to rush back to work, you know, the following day.
 44
 45 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Monday through Wednesday is
 46 good for me too, but just one end or the other. I
 47 think it's...
 48
 49 MR. HENRICHS: Right.

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1
2 MR. JOHN: It doesn't matter to me.
3
4 MR. HENRICHS: So it doesn't kill a whole
5 week, yeah.
6
7 MR. BASNAR: Well, if we met in Anchorage on
8 Monday the 5th, I'd already be there. I would just
9 wouldn't go back home after my visit on the 4th. Or if
10 we met in Cordova on Monday the 5th...
11
12 MR. LOHSE: You could hop on the plane Monday
13 morning and...
14
15 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, I'd be in Anchorage. But
16 that's just my own personal situation. I'm all
17 accommodating...
18
19 CHAIRMAN EWAN: But you'd prefer 5th?
20
21 MR. BASNAR: Yeah, that would be -- that would
22 fit in pretty good with me.
23
24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: That doesn't matter to me
25 which date.
26
27 MR. BRELSFORD: That's good. 5 to 7. Monday,
28 Tuesday, Wednesday. And start Monday at noon.
29
30 MR. LOHSE: Yeah.
31
32 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah.
33
34 MR. LOHSE: Start Monday at noon, go through
35 Tuesday and Wednesday.
36
37 MR. HENRICHS: We could even start sooner than
38 noon if everybody got in on that early plane.
39
40 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, we could start at 10
41 o'clock.
42
43 MR. HENRICHS: At 10:00.
44
45 MR. BASNAR: But we couldn't take the ferry
46 though, right?
47
48 MR. HENRICHS: Well, we'd have to check the
49 ferry schedule.

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1
2 MR. LOHSE: That's the whole thing. I don't
3 think the ferry comes in on Sunday either that's -- I
4 don't know what the ferry schedule is off the top...
5
6 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, that -- a guy would, you
7 know, have to check it out there. Yeah, I know what
8 you're saying there. It's -- we've changed the ferry
9 schedule for other things before too, you know.
10
11 MR. LOHSE: You go try.
12
13 MR. HENRICHS: Well, I was trying to do it
14 now.
15
16 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay. Start the meeting on
17 the 5th, is that okay?
18
19 MR. LOHSE: Tentatively at this point in time.
20
21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay.
22
23 CHAIRMAN EWAN: And then place? Does
24 everybody agree on Cordova?
25
26 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Sure.
27
28 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Okay, 5th -- beginning the 5th
29 in Cordova.
30
31 MR. OSKOLKOFF: The 5th or the 7th, as long as
32 it doesn't start in the middle of the week.
33
34 MR. LOHSE: Yeah, you'll have to fly out of
35 Anchorage -- is where you'll have to fly out of or bush
36 -- there's a commuter flight from Glennallen to
37 Anchorage.
38
39 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Could you get one from Valdez?
40
41 MR. LOHSE: There's no flights from Valdez.
42 There are no airplane connections from Valdez.
43
44 UNIDENTIFIED: You can charter a plane.
45
46 MR. HENRICHS: If there's enough people they
47 charter though, and they're fairly reasonable.
48
49 MR. LOHSE: Yes. Yeah, there's a fairly

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1 reasonable charter on a small -- which would really
2 give you a good look at the Sound. There's a fairly
3 reasonable charter from Valdez to Cordova. If you had
4 three people in Valdez to go across on the charter it'd
5 be cheaper than taking Alaska Airlines -- well, not
6 quite but pretty close to cheap. Currently it costs
7 \$55 to fly from Anchorage to Cordova, \$110 per round
8 trip.
9
10 MR. OSKOLKOFF: I just hate to fly if I don't
11 have to.
12
13 MR. JOHN: Yeah, me too.
14
15 MR. OSKOLKOFF: I fly enough as it is.
16
17 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, the ferry would be going
18 on to Whittier or Valdez that time of year.
19
20 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Yeah, I'd dearly love to take
21 the ferry if there is a possible way. I don't know
22 what the cost is.
23
24 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Were you here to testify,
25 sir? Were you here -- yeah.
26
27 MR. DEAL: I just got here but are you still
28 taking testimony or...
29
30 CHAIRMAN EWAN: We're just closing right now.
31 If you came to testify certainly...
32
33 MR. DEAL: I wouldn't mind saying a small
34 piece.
35
36 CHAIRMAN EWAN: All right. If there's no
37 objections, we'll have that now. State your name and
38 so forth.
39
40 MR. DEAL: My name is William Deal. My
41 address is HC2 Box 5258, Kasilof, Alaska. I would just
42 like to reiterate my earlier comments about subsistence
43 hunting on the Kenai Peninsula. I don't feel it's
44 proper. I don't feel that the Kenai Peninsula is rural
45 as far as anything on the road system. Across the bay
46 might be different but I would like to see this looked
47 at again and something worked out because I don't
48 believe that we should be in a rural designation here
49 on the Kenai Peninsula. Thank you.

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1
2 MR. HENRICHS: Mr. Deal, what do you do for a
3 living?
4

5 MR. DEAL: My wife and I are, I guess you
6 could say, semi-retired. I own a bed and breakfast --
7 my wife and own up on Coho Loop Road in Kasilof. We do
8 depend a lot on tourism for our business and as long as
9 we're going into it, I don't think this is good for
10 tourism in any way, shape or form.
11

12 The thing that really upsets me about the
13 whole thing is it's become a racial issue. Everywhere
14 you go, everything you hear. It is becoming racial and
15 I don't think it should be a racial issue. I don't --
16 America wasn't founded on racial issues. I know that
17 you can go back in history and have all kinds of
18 arguments pro and con. But in this day and age, today,
19 I think we should be all equal. Period.
20

21 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Robert.
22

23 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, just a question here.
24 You would rather it not be classified as rural, period?
25 The whole Kenai Peninsula? Or you would rather
26 reclassify the whole thing as rural? Or neither one?
27

28 MR. DEAL: No, I do not believe any of the
29 road system on the Kenai Peninsula -- any where on the
30 road system should be classified as rural. English Bay
31 and Nanwalek over there, that's a whole different ball
32 game. But I don't believe that anywhere on the road
33 system that has equal access to shopping centers in
34 Kenai, Soldotna and also going into Anchorage. I know
35 a great many people do it here. Go to CostCo and
36 everything else. We do it too. And I just don't think
37 that -- I don't think it should be classified as rural.
38 Yeah, Gary?
39

40 MR. OSKOLKOFF: Ask this one question in
41 regards to the road system. Do you mean just on the
42 main body of the Peninsula that has a road system or do
43 you mean that people -- that perhaps people that live
44 off the road system, say 10 or 15 miles from the
45 nearest road, as is the case for some people that maybe
46 come into town once every six months, do you believe
47 those people also should not qualify simply because
48 they live on the Kenai Peninsula?
49

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1 MR. DEAL: I don't know of any specifics in
 2 that case. Perhaps that's something that would have to
 3 be looked at. But I'm talking about -- well, let's
 4 call a spade a spade. I'm talking about Ninilchik. I
 5 don't think it should be classified as rural when Clam
 6 Gulch and everything else around it is not. Thank you.

7
 8 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Thank you. Okay, that
 9 concludes all the business. We've established a time
 10 and place of our next meeting. I'll entertain a motion
 11 to adjourn.

12
 13 MR. BASNAR: So moved.

14
 15 CHAIRMAN EWAN: There's a motion to adjourn.
 16 Is there a second?

17
 18 MR. ROMIG: Second.

19
 20 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Motion second. All in favor
 21 adjourning say aye.

22
 23 ALL IN UNISON: Aye.

24
 25 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Opposed, the same sign.

26
 27 (No opposing votes)

28
 29 CHAIRMAN EWAN: Meeting adjourned.

30
 31 (7410)

32
 33 (Off record - 11:34 a.m.)

34
 35 ***END OF PROCEEDINGS***

36
 37
 38
 39 CERTIFICATE

40
 41 SUPERIOR COURT)
 42) SS.
 43 STATE OF ALASKA)

44
 45 I, Ladonna Lindley, Certified Professional Court
 46 Reporter for the Third Judicial District, State of
 47 Alaska and Verbatim Reporter for LTD Court Reporters,
 48 hereby certify:

49

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1 (1) That the foregoing pages in Volumes 1, 2 and
2 3, numbered 1 through 294, contain a full, true and
3 correct transcript of the Southcentral Federal
4 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meeting, taken on
5 the 27th, 28th, and 29th days of September, 1995 at the
6 Anchor River Inn, Anchor Point, Alaska;

7
8 (2) That this Transcript, as heretofore annexed,
9 was recorded by Kathleen Burton and thereafter
10 transcribed by me to the best of my knowledge and
11 ability from tapes identified as follows:

12
13 Tapes 310-1842, 310-1843, 310-1844, 310-1845;

14
15 (3) That I have been certified by the Alaska
16 Court System prior to January 1, 1993;

17
18 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
19 and affixed my seal this 14th day of October, 1995.

20
21
22
23
24 Ladonna Lindley
25 Certified Professional Court Reporter
26 Notary Public in and for Alaska
27 My commission expires: 8/1/97
28
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